

ACTION COMICS

Featuring
**"The BATTLE
OF THE
GODS!"**

I'M MIGHTIER THAN YOU,
ATLAS... OR ANY
OTHER GOD ON
MT. OLYMPUS!

NO, I'M THE STRONGEST,
ZHA-VAM! I DESERVE THE
HONOR OF DESTROYING
SUPERMAN!

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO
WINS... I'LL BE IN FOR THE
FIGHT OF MY LIFE!





NO. 353
AUG.

12¢



ACTION COMICS

Featuring

"The BATTLE OF THE GODS!"

I'M MIGHTIER THAN YOU, ATLAS... OR ANY OTHER GOD ON MT. OLYMPUS!

NO, I'M THE STRONGEST, SHA-ZAM! I DESERVE THE HONOR OF DESTROYING SUPERMAN!

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO WINS... I'LL BE IN FOR THE FIGHT OF MY LIFE!



SUPERMAN

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

I'M BEING
ATTACKED BY
APOLLO, ZEUS,
VULCAN AND HERCULES!
HOW CAN I STAND
UP AGAINST ALL
THESE GODS?

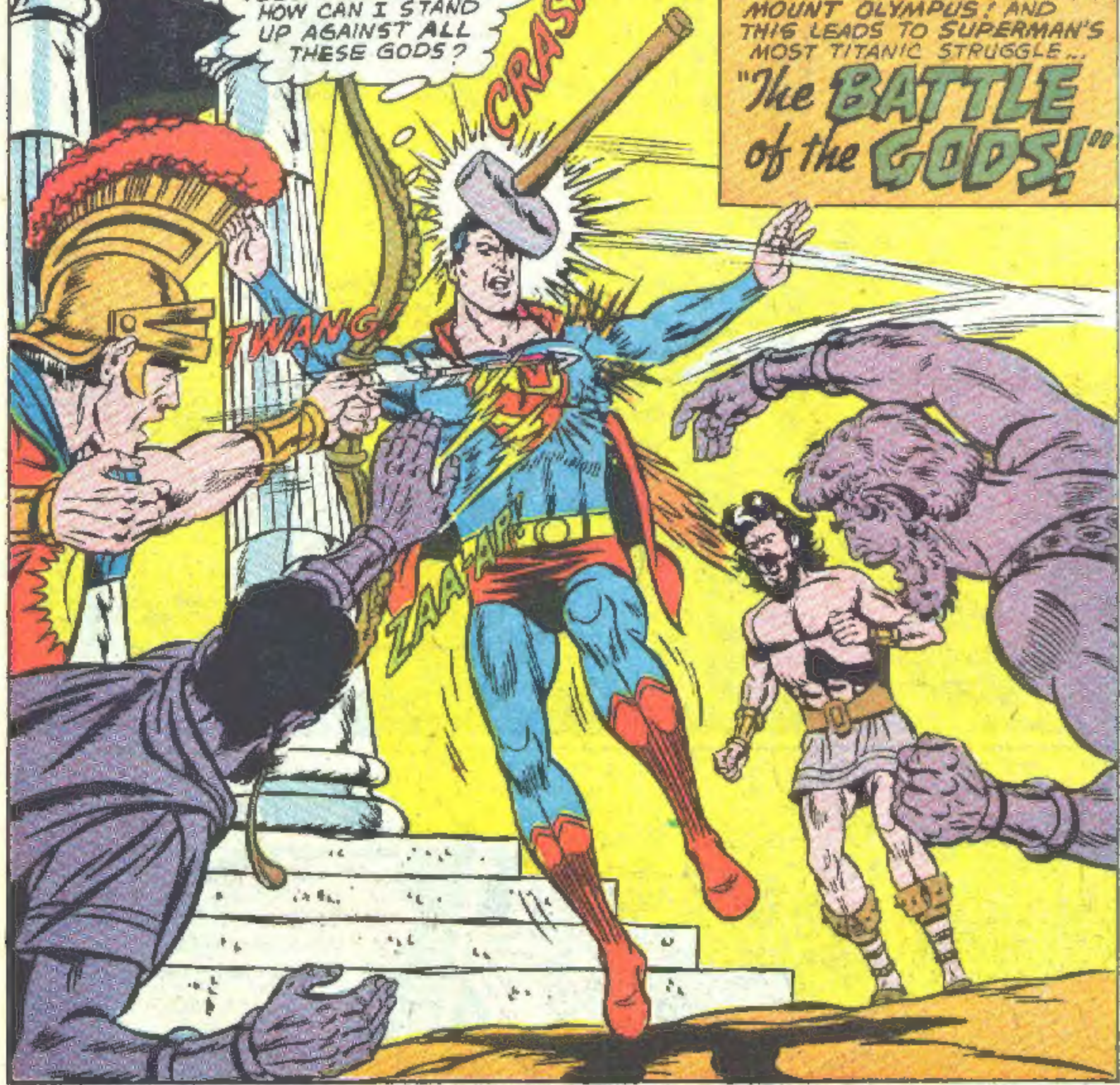
CRASH!

TWANG!

ZAA-AP!

SUPERMAN HAS MET NO
MIGHTIER FOE THAN ZHA-YAM,
THE GIANT WHO HAS THE
POWERS OF THE ANCIENT
GODS! BUT NOW THE MAN
OF STEEL INVADERS THE
DOMAIN OF THE FABLED
CHAMPIONS THEMSELVES...
MOUNT OLYMPUS! AND
THIS LEADS TO SUPERMAN'S
MOST TITANIC STRUGGLE...

"The **BATTLE**
of the **GODS!**"



"This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition, nor affixed to, nor as part of any advertising, literary or pictorial matter whatsoever."

Printed
in
U.S.A.

ACTION COMICS, No. 353, August, 1967. Published monthly; (semi-monthly, March) by NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 2nd and Dickey Streets, SPARTA, ILL. 62286. Editorial, Executive offices and Subscriptions, 575 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022. Mort Weisinger, Editor. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT SPARTA, ILL. under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription for twelve 32-page issues in the U.S., \$1.75 including postage. Foreign, \$3.50 in American funds. Canada, \$2.00 in American funds;

check or money order only. No subscriptions accepted without Zip Code. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co., 41 East 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10017. Copyright © National Periodical Publications, Inc., 1967. All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred.

FAR OUT IN SPACE ONE DAY, THE MAN OF STEEL CARRIES OUT A SUPER-PROJECT TO AID ANOTHER WORLD...

A FEW MORE TONS OF GIRDERS TO WELD WITH MY HEAT VISION AND THIS **SPACE BRIDGE** WILL BE DONE, LINKING TOGETHER THOSE TWO ARTIFICIAL "MOONS"... GIANT SATELLITES IN THE SAME ORBIT!

USING TELEPATHY, THE ALIENS "TALK" TO SUPERMAN ...

YOU KNOW OUR ORIGINAL PLANET WAS OVERCOME BY A **PERMANENT ICE AGE**! BUT THANKS TO YOU, **SUPERMAN**, ALL OUR PEOPLE CAN NOW LIVE ON OUR TWO ARTIFICIAL MOONS, WITHOUT BEING SEPARATED!

FINISHED! I'VE CONSTRUCTED THE **FIRST INTERPLANETARY BRIDGE** TO CARRY TRAFFIC BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN TWO INHABITED WORLDS! BACK TO EARTH NOW!

WE WILL NEVER FORGET YOUR MIGHTY FEAT, **SUPERMAN**! FAREWELL!

BUT YOU MAY NOT REACH EARTH, **SUPERMAN**!

HUH? WHAT'S THAT BIG SHIELD HANGING IN SPACE? IT HAS A MESSAGE... GREAT STARS!

IMPENETRABLE, EH? WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT... UGGG! I-I ONLY BOUNCED BACK!

MEMO FROM ZHA-YAM TO SUPERMAN! I PRESSED MY BELT'S "O" BUTTON FOR ORION'S SHIELD, WHICH IS IMPENETRABLE, EVEN BY YOU!

MEMO F ZHA-YAM TO SUPERMAN! I PRES "O" BU IN FOR ORION'S SHIELD, WHICH IS IMPENETRABLE, EVEN BY YOU!

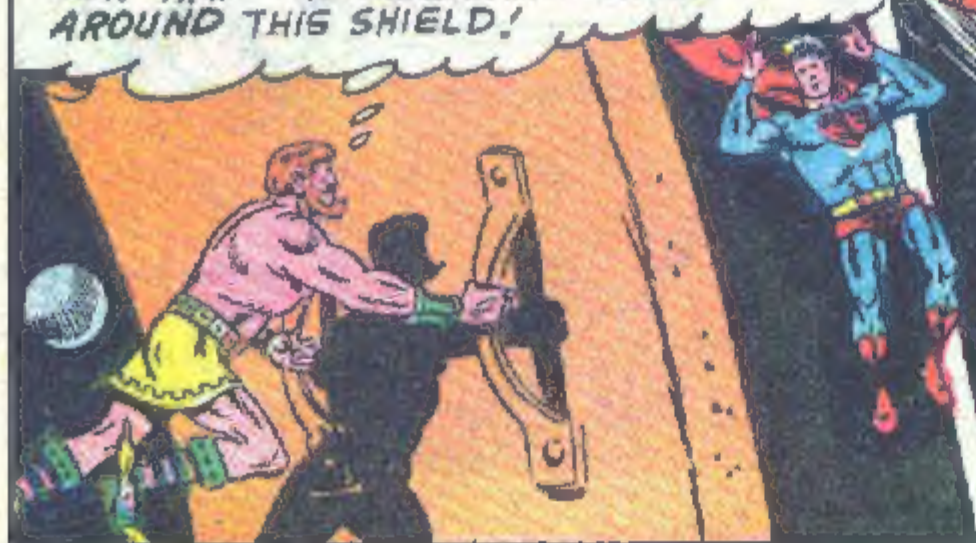
BEHIND THE SHIELD IS SUPERMAN'S FOE, WHO POSSESSES THE POWERS OF ZEUS, HERCULES, APOLLO, VULCAN, ACHILLES AND MERCURY!

IT IS THE NEXT LOGICAL STEP FOR SUPERMAN, BUT...

THE SHIELD OF THE GIANT ORION HAS HIM TRAPPED!

BESIDES THE "BIG SIX" POWERS, EACH BUTTON ON MY BELT, WHEN PRESSED, GIVES ME THE ADDED POWER OF A DIFFERENT ANCIENT GOD OR HERO! HA! WAIT TILL SUPERMAN TRIES TO FLY AROUND THIS SHIELD!

BLAZING COMETS! THE SHIELD IS EXPANDING AS FAST AS I CAN FLY! I'LL NEVER GET AROUND THE EDGE!



MEMO FROM ZHA-VAM TO SUPERMAN! O BUTTON ON FOR ORION'S SHIELD WHICH IS IMPENETRABLE

WE CAN'T TALK IN AIRLESS SPACE... SO I'LL USE MY ZEUS' LIGHTNING BOLTS TO CARVE OUT ANOTHER MESSAGE ON THAT METEOR FOR SUPERMAN TO READ...

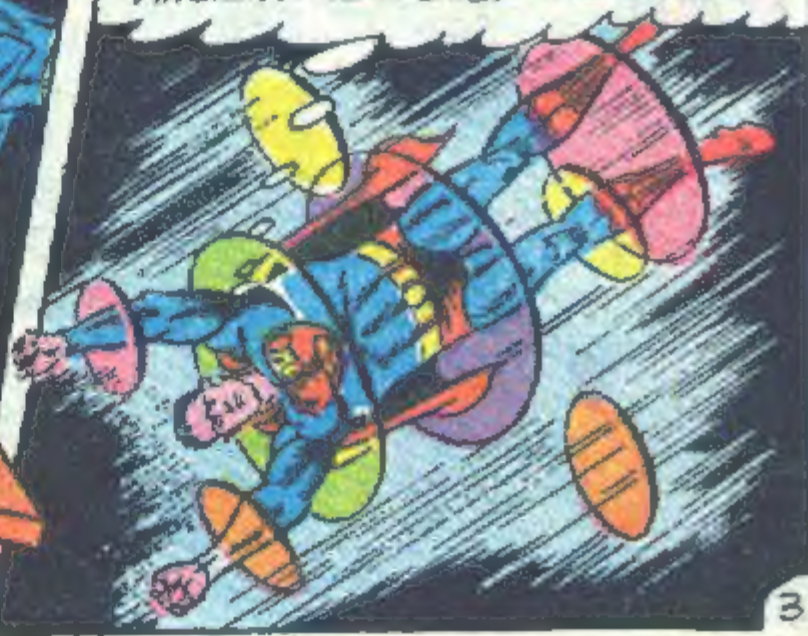


GIVE UP, SUPERMAN! YOU'LL NEVER GET PAST ORION'S MAGIC SHIELD AND RETURN TO EARTH. BEING A HERMIT ON SOME SMALL ASTEROID IS ALL THAT'S LEFT FOR YOU! HA, HA!

WITH SUPERMAN BLOCKED OFF FOREVER, EARTH IS MINE! HA, HA, HA!

HE LEFT THE SHIELD HANGING THERE! MY HEAT VISION CAN'T EVEN SINGLE IT! AM I REALLY... GASP!... EXILED FROM EARTH?

NO... I CAN CROSS THE TIME-BARRIER INTO THE PAST, BEFORE THE SHIELD WAS PLACED THERE, AND THEN REACH EARTH! ALSO, I'LL TRACK DOWN ZHA-VAM'S ORIGIN! I'LL HEAD FOR MOUNT OLYMPUS IN GREECE, ANCIENT ABODE OF THE GODS!



THE CENTURIES UNREEL, UNTIL FINALLY...

ANCIENT OLYMPUS! SEEMS THERE'S A CONFERENCE OF THE GODS AND HEROES. HMM... I HAVE AN IDEA HOW TO GET IN AND LEARN IF ZHA-VAM IS THERE, WITH A BIT OF DISGUISE...

HAIR RUMPLED... CAPE FIXED ON DIFFERENTLY... AND I'LL BORROW THAT LUTE SOMEBODY LEFT HERE...

BY URANUS! WHO IS THIS INTRUDER? CAST HIM OUT...

WAIT, O MIGHTY ZEUS! LISTEN TO THE SONG OF A HUMBLE WANDERING MINSTREL!

I'M GLAD I MEMORIZED ALL LANGUAGES, INCLUDING GREEK!

MIGHTY IMMORTALS, YOUR FAME IS GREAT! TO BE KNOWN FOREVER IS YOUR GOLDEN FATE!

BRAVO! THOU ART A CLEVER RHYMESTER! MINSTREL MAN! THOU HAST EARNED THE RIGHT TO DINE WITH US!

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

LATER...

HMM... NO SIGN
OF ZHA-YAM HERE!

ATTENTION, ALL! THE
ORACLE OF DELPHI, HERE, WILL
NOW UNVEIL THE FAR FUTURE AND
REVEAL WHAT NEW HONORS AWAIT
US CENTURIES FROM NOW! GAZE
INTO HER CRYSTAL BALL!



IN THE ORACLE'S CRYSTAL BALL, A
STARK SCENE UNFOLDS...

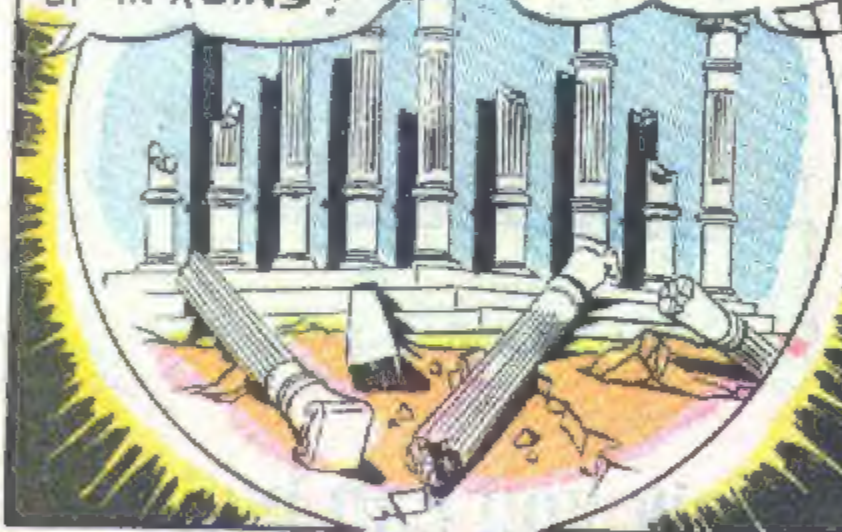
I FORESEE DISASTER,
O ZEUS! IN THE FUTURE,
YOUR TEMPLE WILL BE
ABANDONED... END
UP IN RUINS!

BY THE
WATERS OF
OCEANUS,
WHAT DOES IT
MEAN, ORACLE?

BEHOLD, LORD
OF OLYMPUS!
CROWDS PRAISING
SOMEONE TO
THE SKIES!

HE'S THE
GREATEST!
HOORAY!

AHA! I WONDER
WHICH OF US
GODS THEY'RE
CHEERING?



NONE OF YOU! THEY WILL
HAVE ANOTHER HERO IN
THE FUTURE!

HURRAH FOR
SUPERMAN!

HE'S OUR
BOY!

GREAT HEADS OF
CEREBERUS! HOW
DARE THEY?



BAH! CAN THAT
HERO EQUAL
OUR POWERS...
SUCH AS THE
LIGHTNING -
BOLTS OF ZEUS!

EVERYONE
KNOWS OF THE
UNMATCHED
STRENGTH OF
HERCULES!

AND HOW
INVULNERABLE
IS GREAT
ACHILLES!

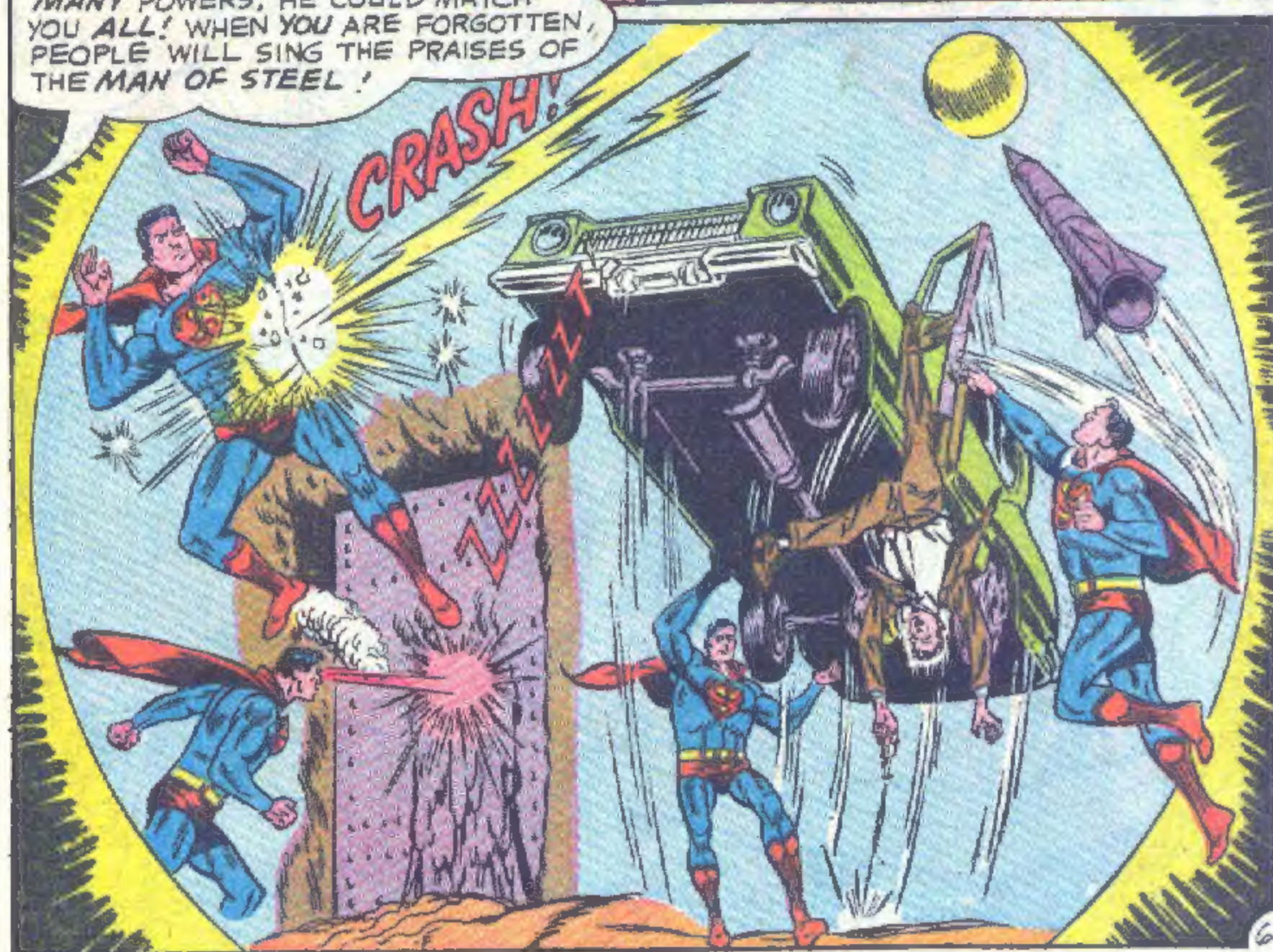
NO ONE CAN
DUPLICATE THE
FLAME BREATH
OF VULCAN!

APOLLO'S MIGHTY
ARROWS CAN REACH
THE MOON!

BUT I, MERCURY,
CAN OUTFLY THEM
WITH MY WINGED
SANDALS!



AH, BUT SUPERMAN WILL HAVE
MANY POWERS! HE COULD MATCH
YOU ALL! WHEN YOU ARE FORGOTTEN,
PEOPLE WILL SING THE PRAISES OF
THE MAN OF STEEL!

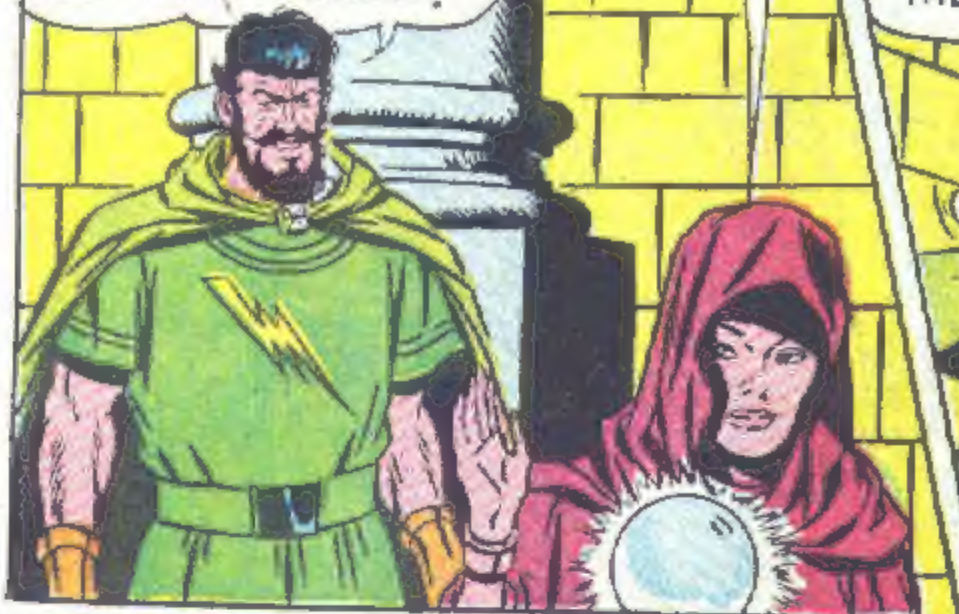


YOU MEAN WE WILL BE HAS-BEENS?... ALL THE GLORY OF OUR MIGHTY DEEDS WILL NO LONGER BE REMEMBERED?

SO IT WILL BE! I HAVE SPOKEN!

AND YOU, MINSTREL, PRAISED US, SAYING WE WOULD BE KNOWN FOREVER! THIS CRYSTAL BALL WILL TEACH YOU TO FLATTER THE GODS FALSELY!

OH, OH! IF I'M UNHURT, THEY'LL KNOW I'M INVULNERABLE!



...AND THAT I'M NO MERE MINSTREL!

WHEW!! I BARELY DODGED IT AT SUPER-SPEED!

WHAP!

I AM GLAD YOU... UH... MISSED ME, GREAT ZEUS! PLEASE FORGIVE ME... I AM NO SOOTHSAYER!

NO MATTER! WE MUST DEAL WITH THAT FUTURE UPSTART! YES, PROMETHEUS?

I HAVE AN IDEA, ZEUS! I WILL USE MY POWER TO CREATE MEN OUT OF CLAY! COME HERE TOMORROW!



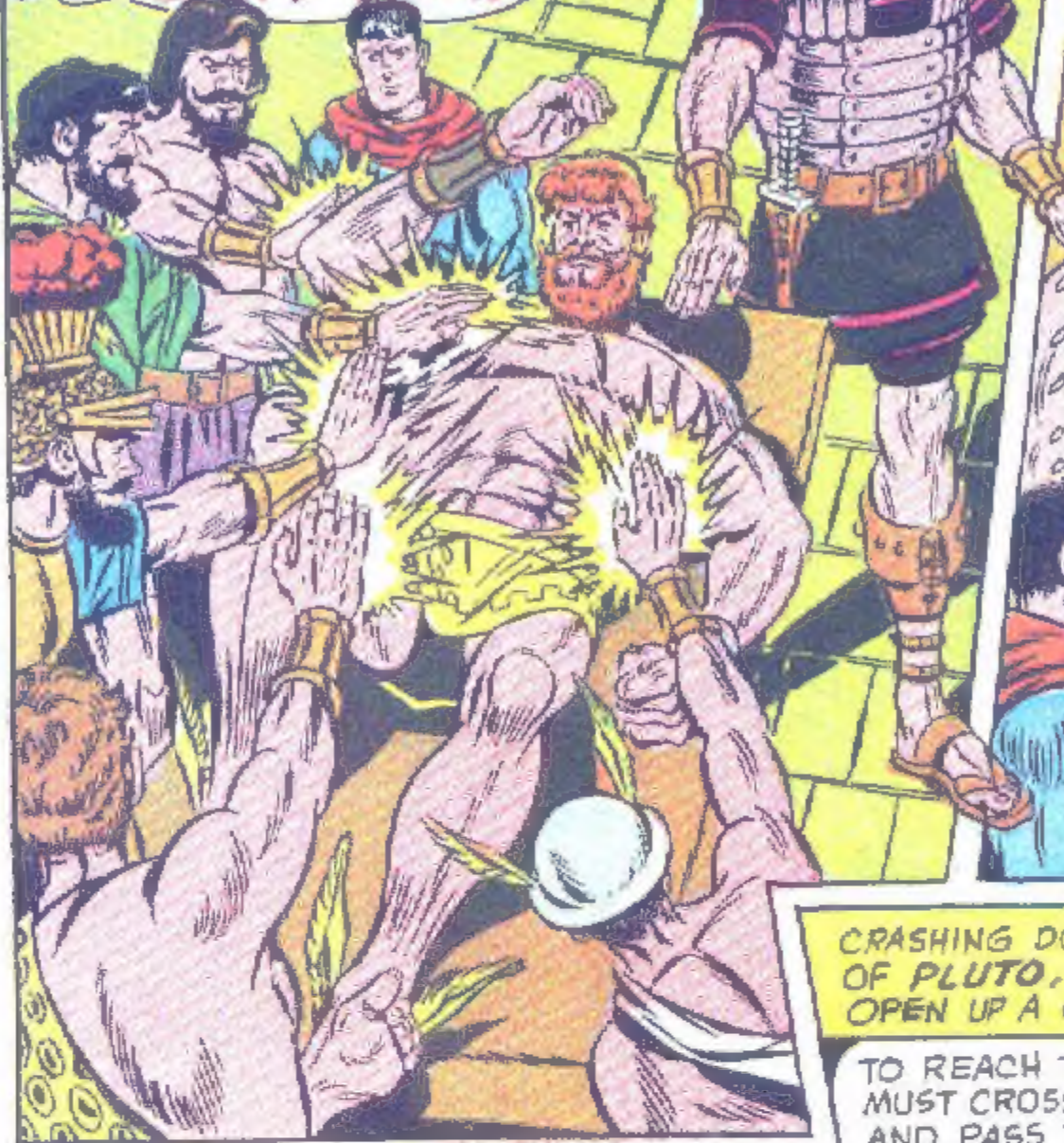
NEXT DAY...

WHEN FINISHED, THE CLAY HERO I MOULDED SHALL BE OUR CHAMPION!

SIX OF YOU COME FORWARD AND BESTOW YOUR POWERS UPON HIM!

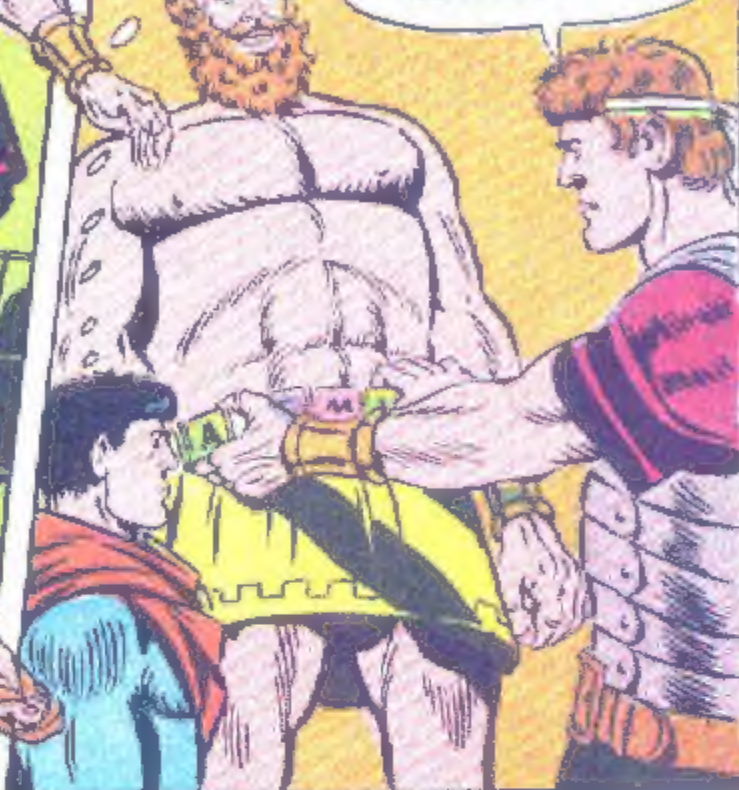


THERE! THE POWERS OF ZEUS, HERCULES, APOLLO, VULCAN, ACHILLES, AND MERCURY FLOW INTO HIM AND... BEHOLD! OUR CHAMPION COMES TO LIFE! MEET **ZHA-VAM!**



SO THAT'S HOW ZHA-VAM ORIGINATED!

THIS BELT HOLDS THE POWERS OF THE OTHER GODS, NOT ONLY THOSE OF OLYMPUS, BUT THOSE OF OTHER LANDS, AS WELL! ZHA-VAM CAN USE THEM WHEN NECESSARY!



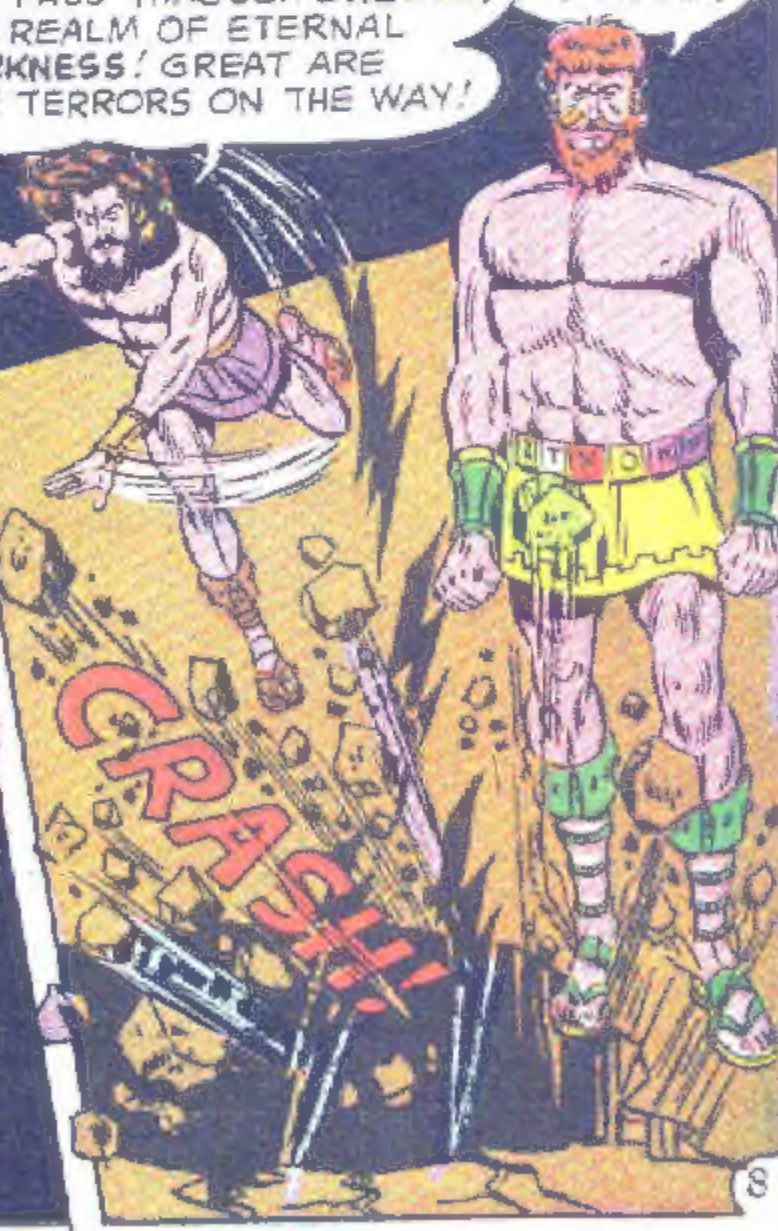
CRASHING DOWNWARD, THE BLACK BOLTS OF PLUTO, LORD OF THE NETHER WORLD, OPEN UP A GLOOMY PASSAGE...

TO REACH THE FUTURE, YOU MUST CROSS THE RIVER STYX AND PASS THROUGH EREBUS, THE REALM OF ETERNAL DARKNESS! GREAT ARE THE TERRORS ON THE WAY!

BAH! I FEAR NOTHING, PLUTO!

DO YOU, ZHA-VAM, SWEAR TO UPHOLD THE HONOR AND GLORY OF OLYMPUS? WILL YOU DESTROY OUR FUTURE RIVAL SO THAT WE WILL REIGN SUPREME AGAIN?

I VOW IT, O ZEUS!





BEWARE ZHA-VAM YOU HAVE THE VULNERABILITY ACHILLES GAINED WHEN HE WAS DIPPED IN THE STYX! TOUCHING THOSE ENCHANTED WATERS NOW CAN UNDO THE SPELL AND MAKE YOU MORTAL!

FEAR NOT! I WILL USE CAUTION
FAREWELL

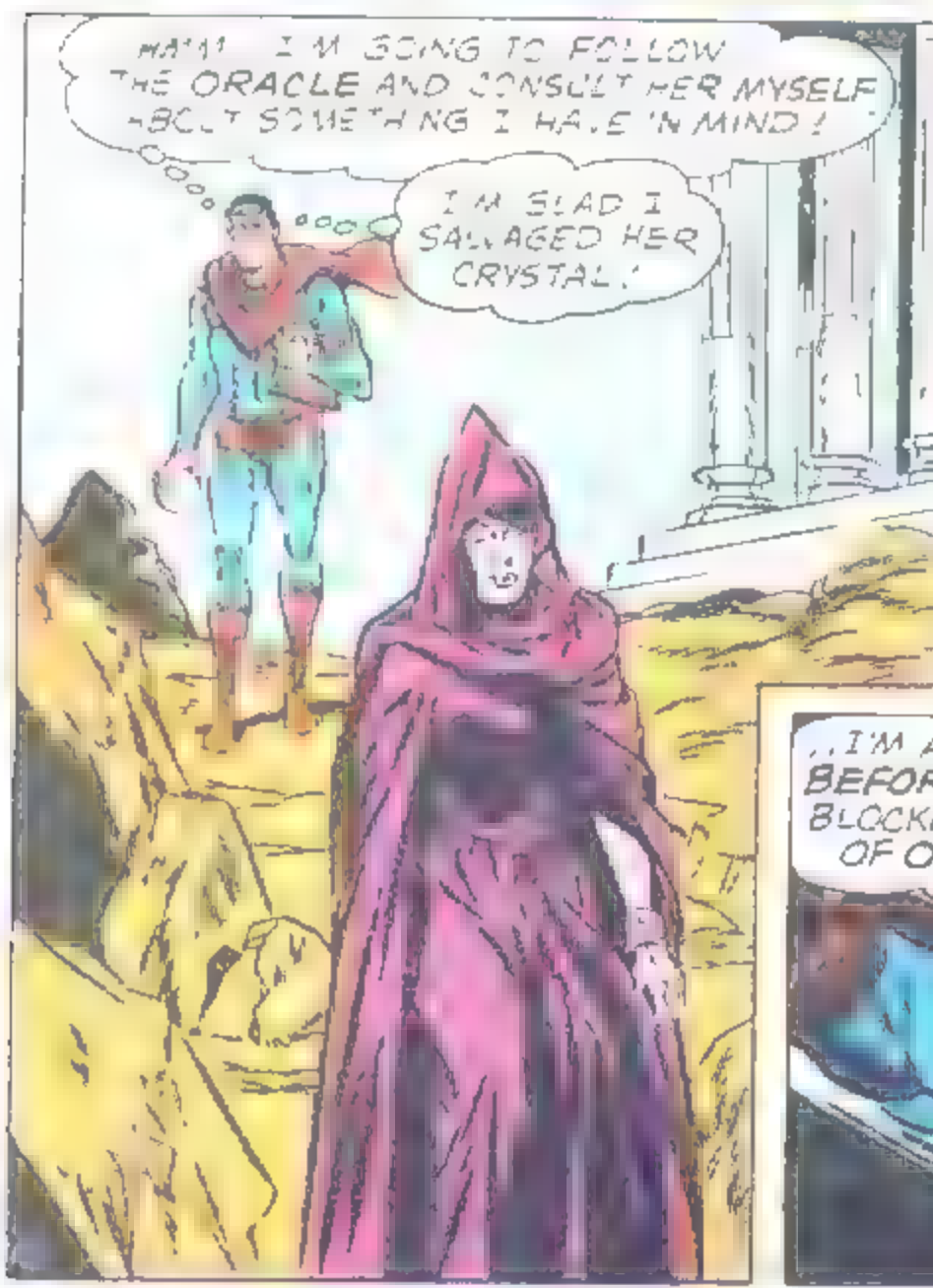


THE WAY IS SEALED AGAIN!

TELL ME ORACLE... WILL OUR PLAN SUCCEED?

I KNOW NOT! YOU THREW AWAY MY CRYSTAL BALL WHICH CAN REVEAL THE FUTURE

I MUST RETURN TO DELPHI!



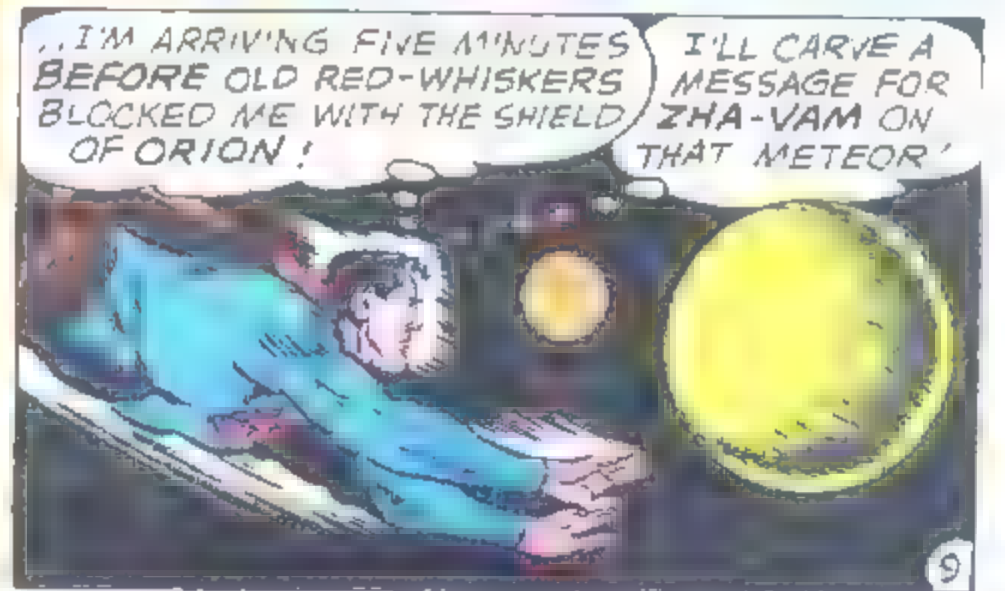
HMM I'M GOING TO FOLLOW THE ORACLE AND CONSULT HER MYSELF ABOUT SOMETHING I HAVE 'N MIND!

I'M GLAD I SALVAGED HER CRYSTAL!



LATER, AFTER A VISIT TO THE ORACLE...

NOW I'M PREPARED TO CHALLENGE ZHA-VAM AGAIN. I'LL CROSS THE TIME-BARRIER TO THE 20TH CENTURY BUT



...I'M ARRIVING FIVE MINUTES BEFORE OLD RED-WHISKERS BLOCKED ME WITH THE SHIELD OF ORION!

I'LL CARVE A MESSAGE FOR ZHA-VAM ON THAT METEOR!

SEVERAL MINUTES LATER...

SUPERMAN WILL NEVER
REACH EARTH... HUH??

HI, BLOCKHEAD!
DID YOU THINK YOUR
SILLY SHIELD COULD
STOP ME? AT NOON
TOMORROW, I CHALLENGE
YOU TO A FINAL SUPER-
SHOWDOWN IN THE
ARENA AT LATIUM!
-SUPERMAN

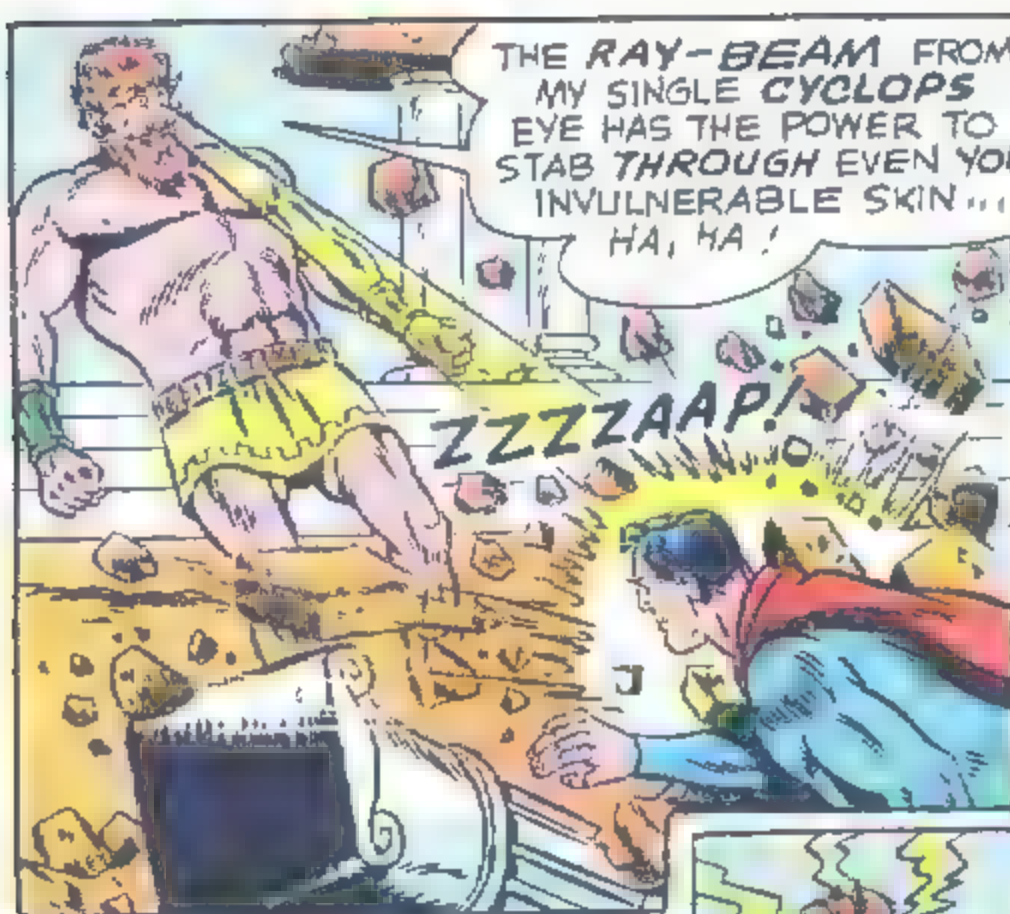
WHEN ZHA-VAM KEEPS THE APPOINTMENT,
IN THE RUINED ARENA IN THE ANCIENT
CITY OF LATIUM...

HERE I AM,
SUPERMAN! I'M THROUGH
TOYING WITH YOU! THIS
TIME I'LL DESTROY YOU,
AS I VOWED TO ZEUS
BACK ON MOUNT OLYMPUS!

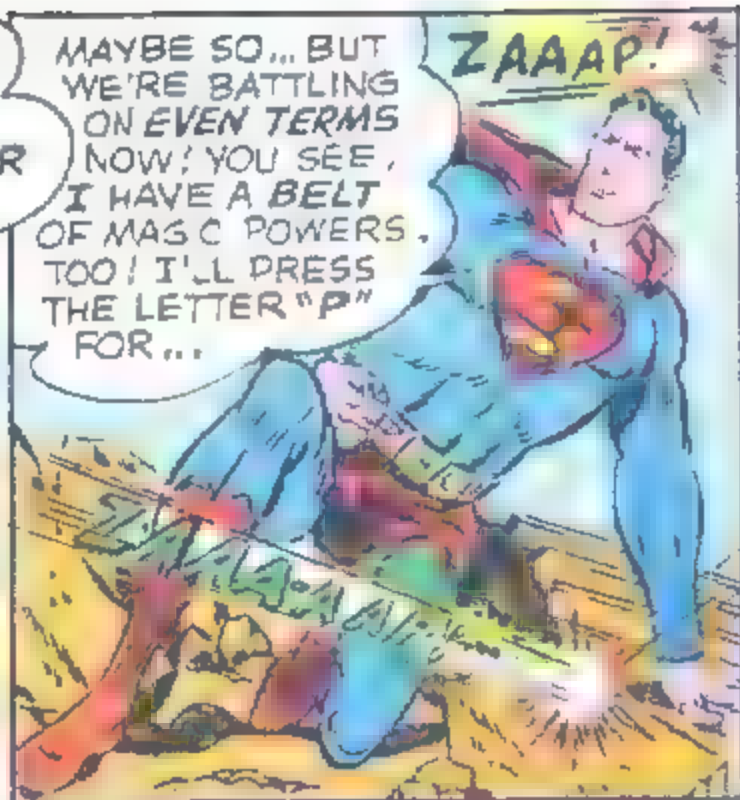
FIRST, I PRESS
MY "C" BUTTON
FOR...

...CYCLOPS!
AND NOW I'LL BLAST
YOU OUT OF HIDING;
COWARD!

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING



THE **RAY-BEAM** FROM MY SINGLE **CYCLOPS** EYE HAS THE POWER TO STAB THROUGH EVEN YOUR INVULNERABLE SKIN...
HA, HA!

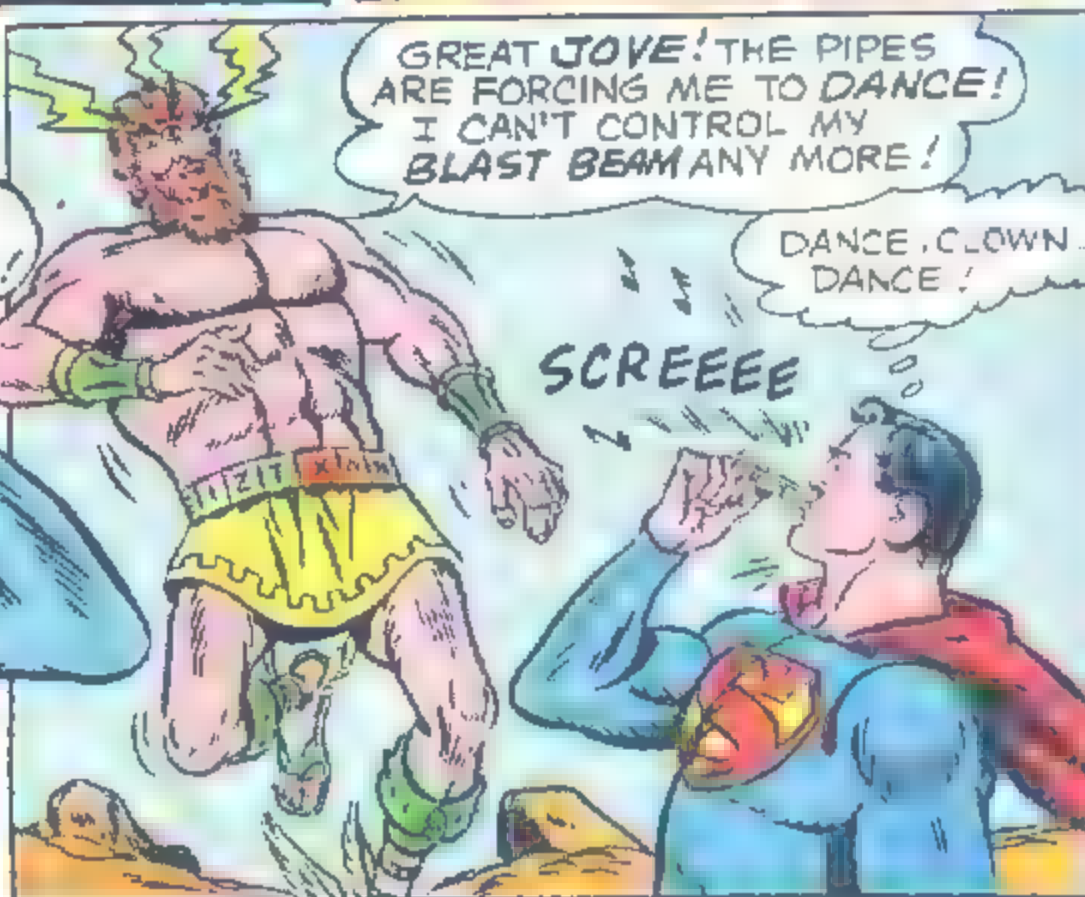


MAYBE SO... BUT WE'RE BATTLING ON **EVEN TERMS** NOW! YOU SEE, I HAVE A **BELT** OF **MAG C POWERS**. TOO! I'LL PRESS THE **LETTER "P"** FOR...

ZAAAAP!



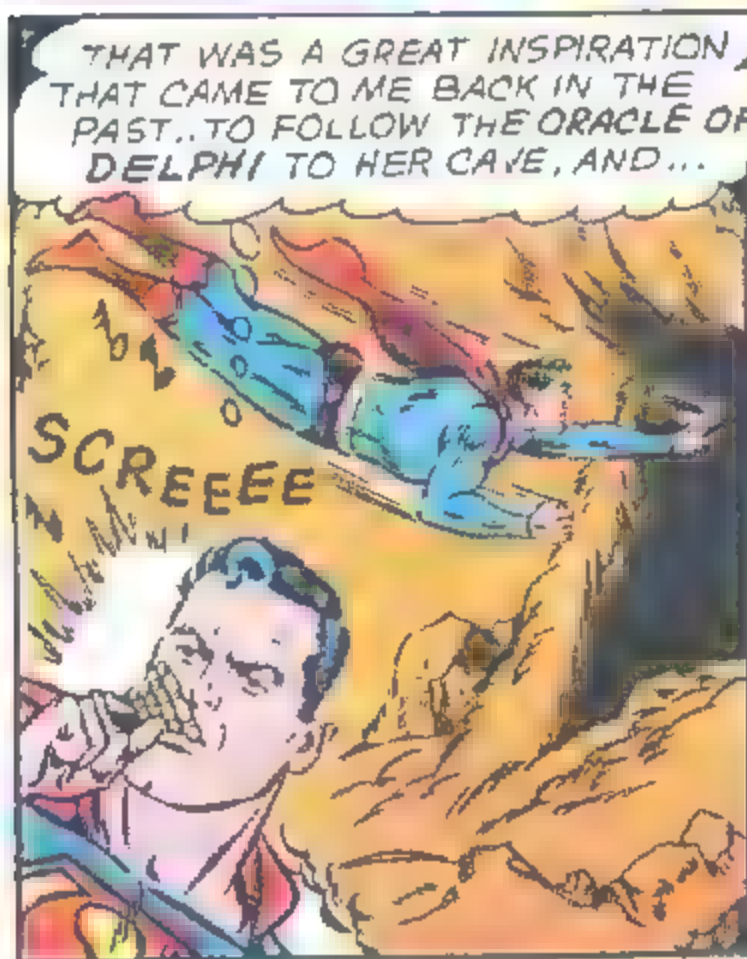
...**PAN**, WHO PLAYED THE **MAGICAL PAN PIPES!**



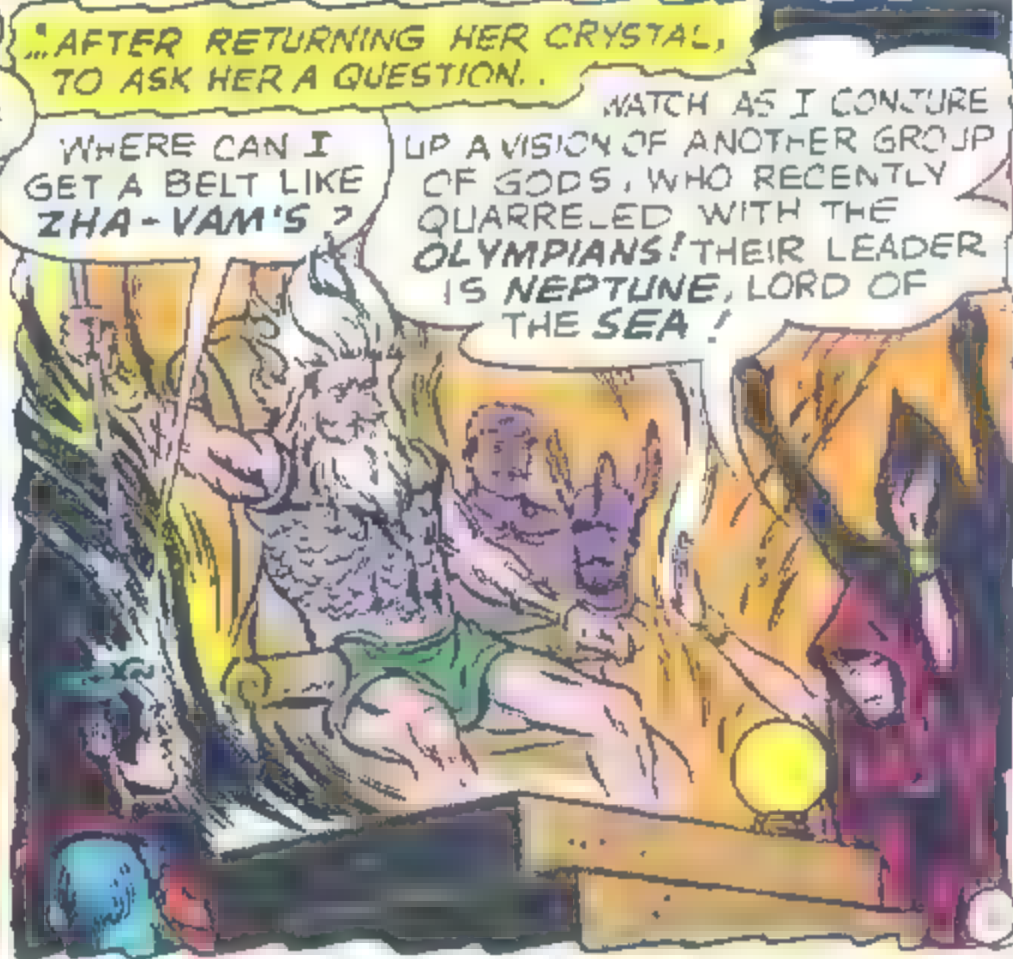
GREAT JOVE! THE **PIPES** ARE FORCING ME TO **DANCE!** I CAN'T CONTROL MY **BLAST BEAM** ANY MORE!

DANCE, CLOWN DANCE!

SCREEEE



THAT WAS A **GREAT INSPIRATION** THAT CAME TO ME BACK IN THE **PAST**.. TO FOLLOW THE **ORACLE OF DELPHI** TO HER **CAVE**, AND...



...AFTER RETURNING HER **CRYSTAL**, TO ASK HER A **QUESTION**..

WHERE CAN I GET A **BELT** LIKE **ZHA-VAM'S**?

WATCH AS I **CONJURE** UP A **VISION** OF ANOTHER **GROUP** OF **GODS**, WHO RECENTLY **QUARRELED** WITH THE **OLYMPIANS!** THEIR **LEADER** IS **NEPTUNE**, LORD OF THE **SEA!**

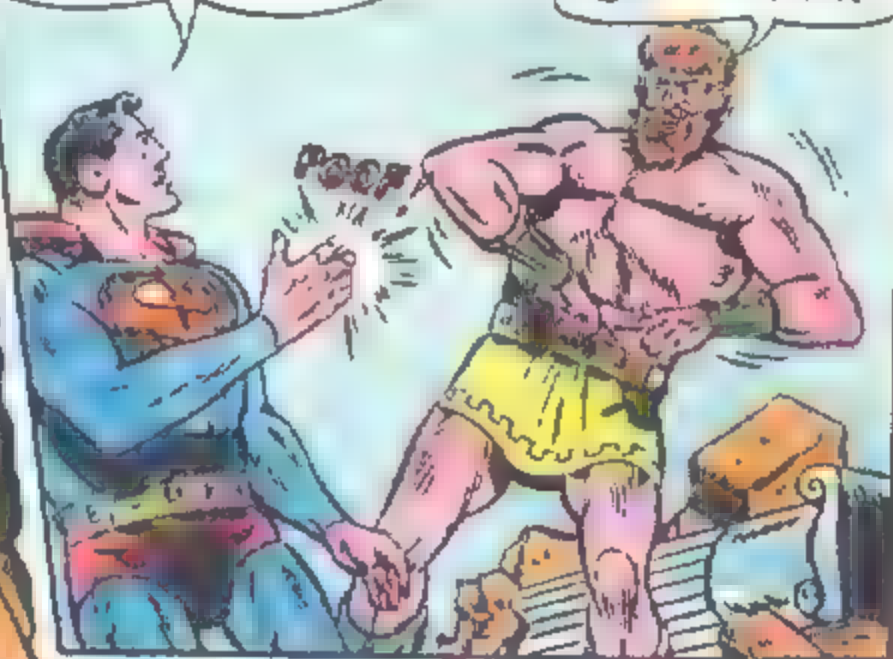
"I SWAM TO THE UNDERSEA KINGDOM WHERE NEPTUNE OFFERED ME HIS AID..."

IT WILL BE A PLEASURE TO PUNCTURE THE EGO OF MY ARROGANT BROTHER, ZEUS! OUR POWERS WILL FLOW INTO THIS BELT AND AID YOU, SUPERMAN, IN YOUR BATTLE AGAINST ZHA-VAM!

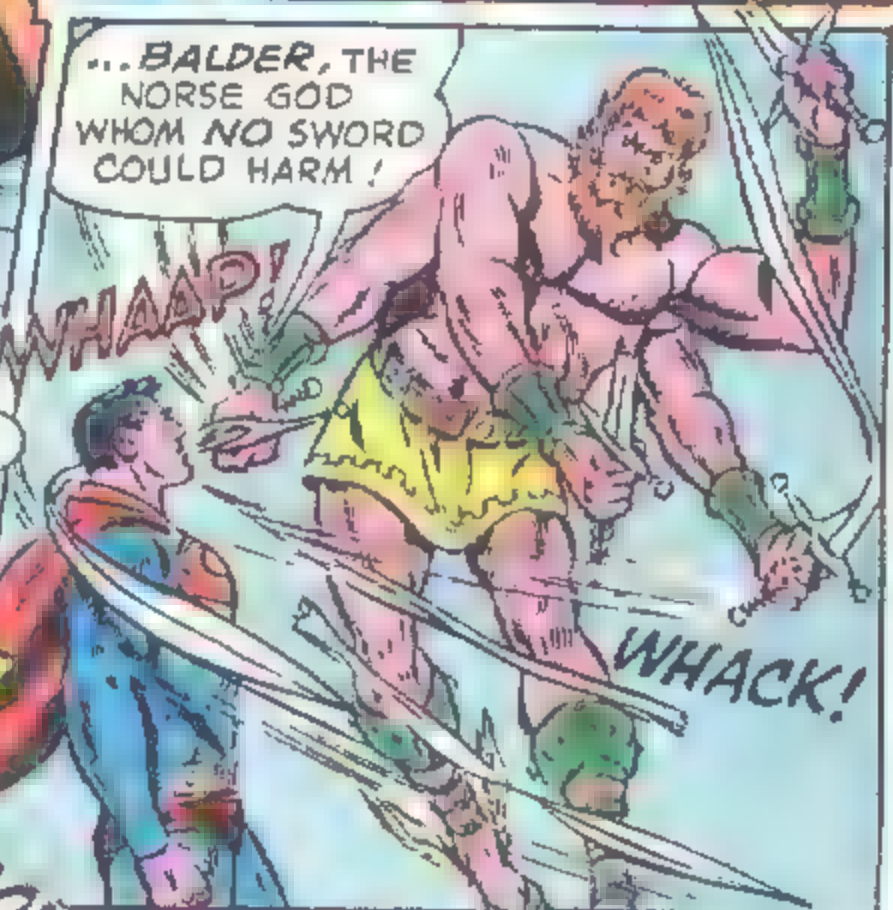
HIS RECOLLECTIONS OVER, SUPERMAN RETURNS TO THE MIGHTY BATTLE OF THE BELTS!

SINCE YOU GAVE UP YOUR CYCLOPS POWER, I DON'T NEED PAN'S PIPES ANY MORE!

BUT NOW I'LL USE 2 BUTTONS... "M" FOR MARS, GOD OF WAR...

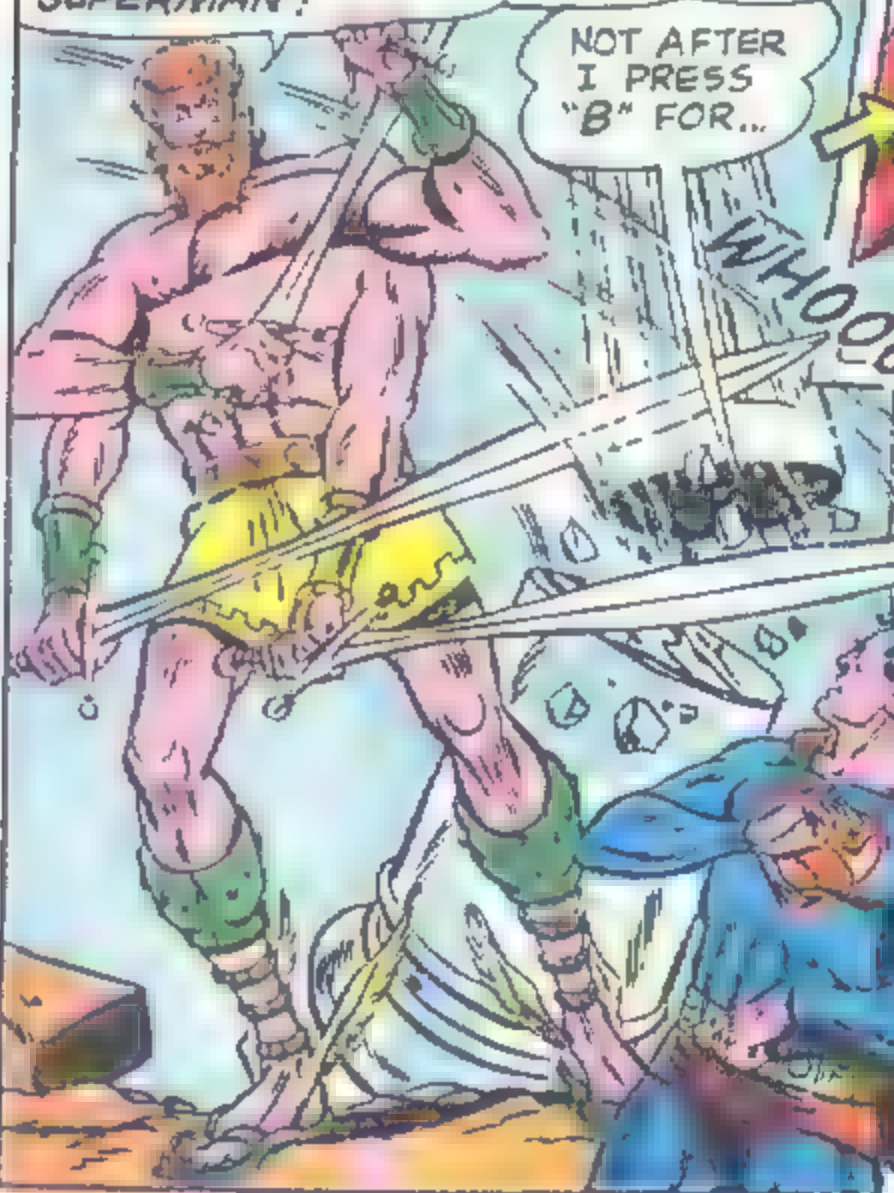


...BALDER, THE NORSE GOD WHOM NO SWORD COULD HARM!

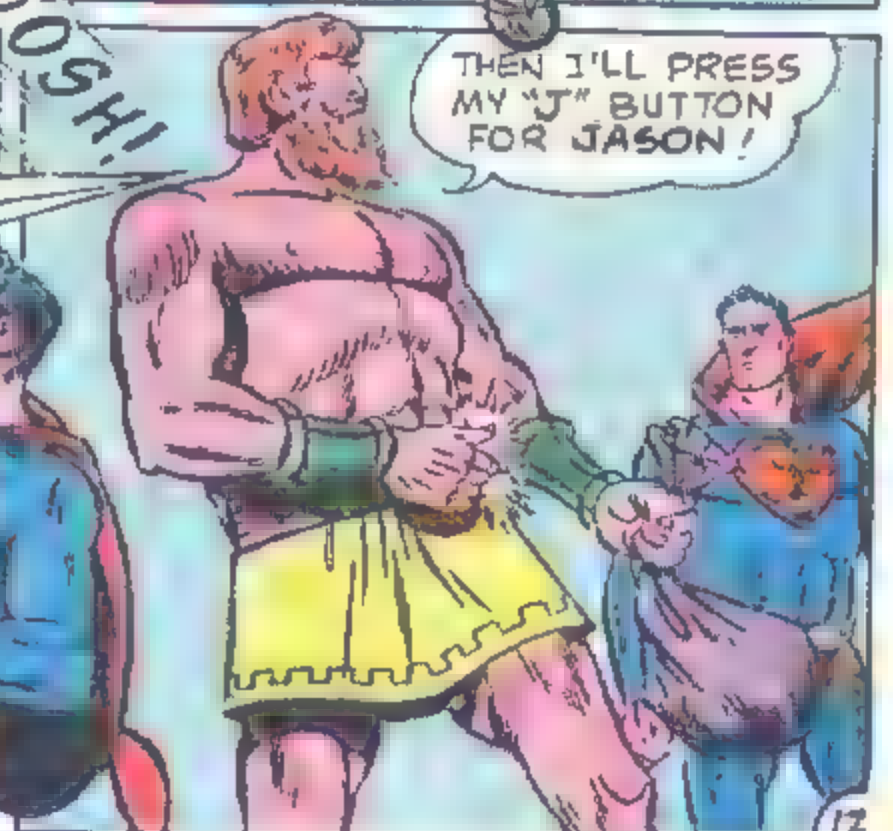


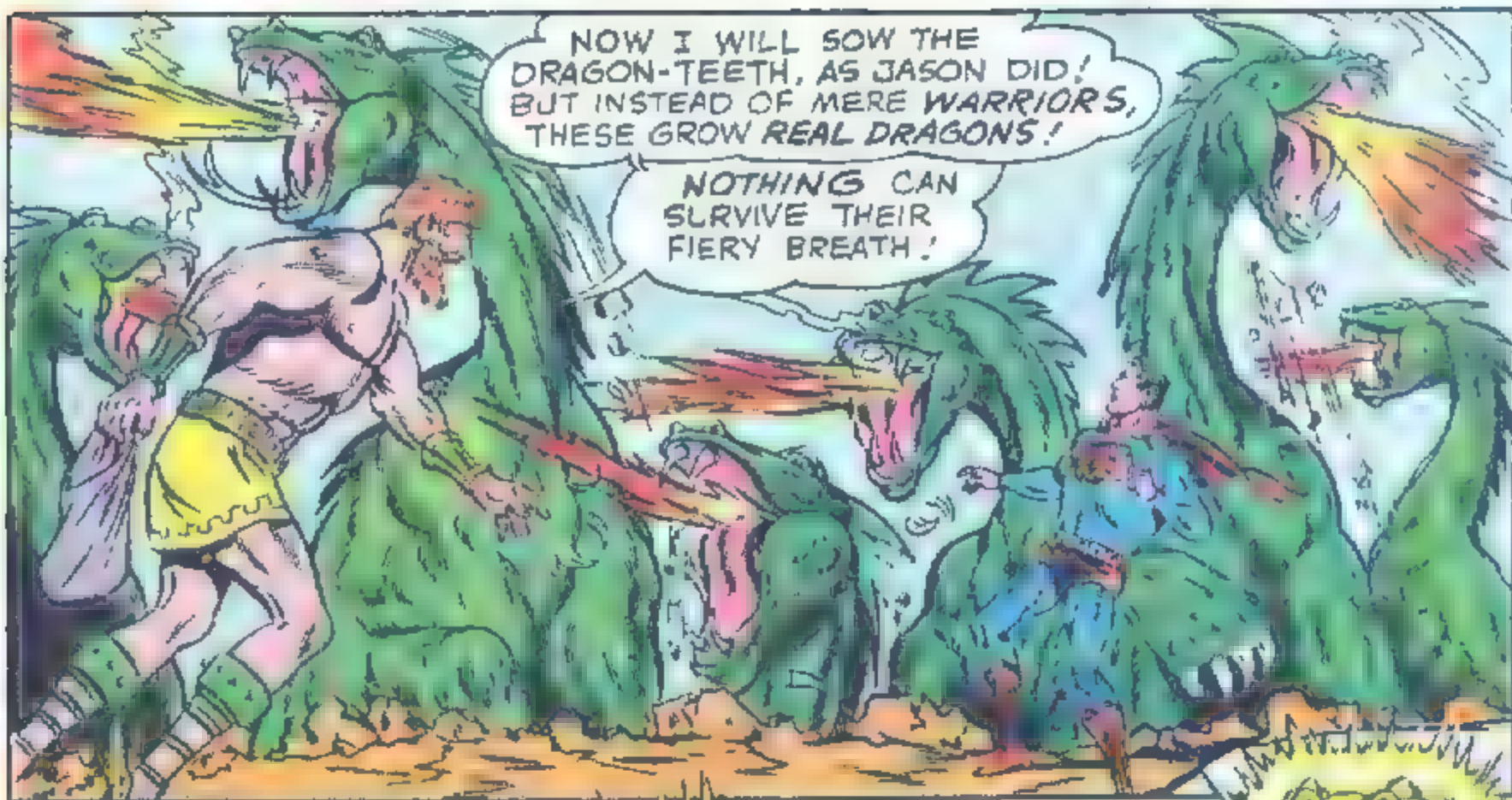
"AND 'S' FOR SIVA, THE FOUR-ARMED HINDU GOD! EACH OF MY ARMS HAS A MAGIC SWORD, WHICH CAN WOUND EVEN YOU, SUPERMAN!

NOT AFTER I PRESS "B" FOR...



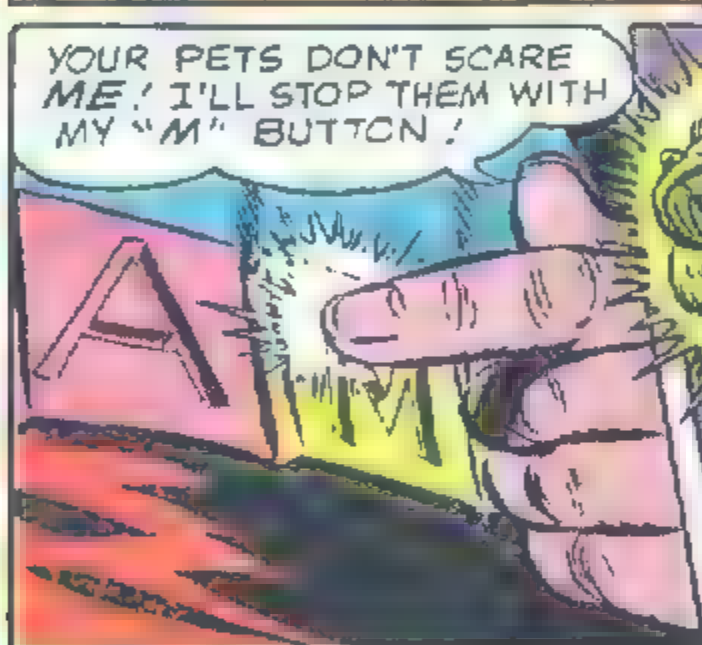
THEN I'LL PRESS MY "J" BUTTON FOR JASON!



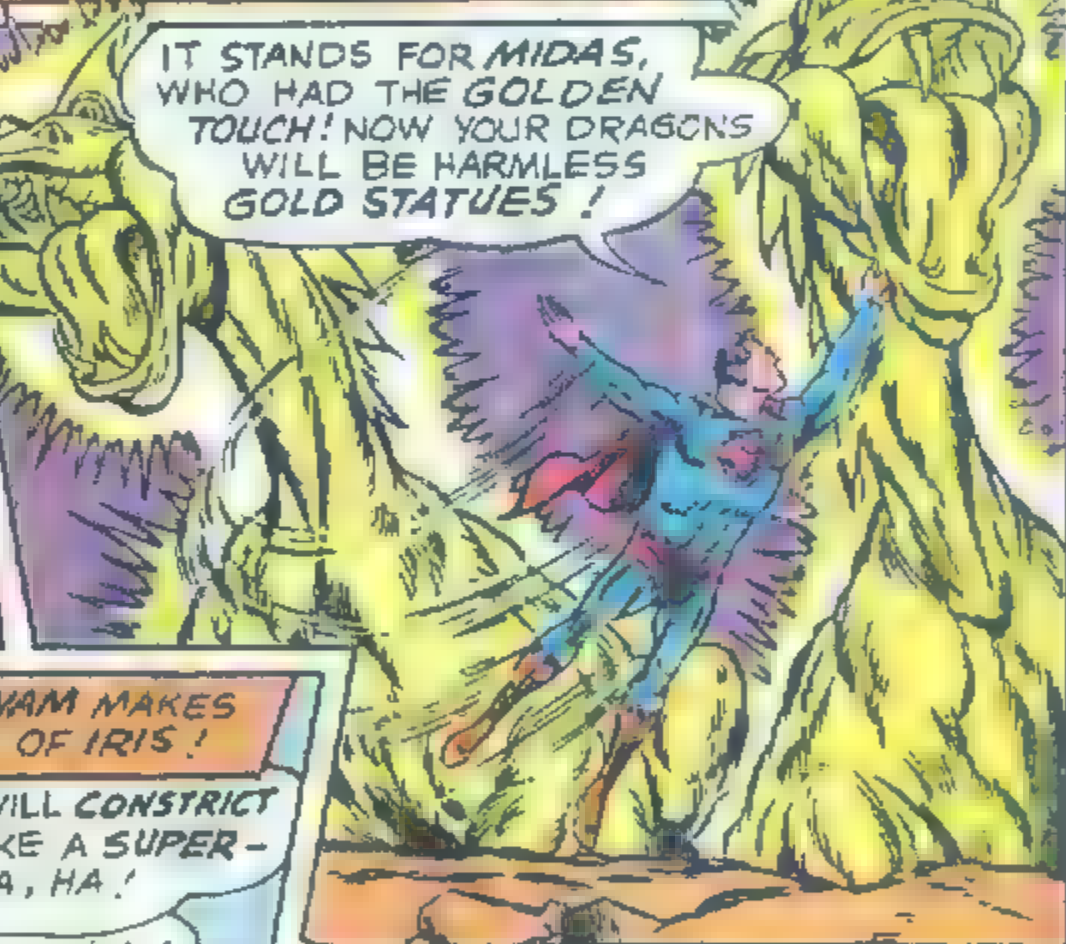


NOW I WILL SOW THE DRAGON-TEETH, AS JASON DID! BUT INSTEAD OF MERE WARRIORS, THESE GROW REAL DRAGONS!

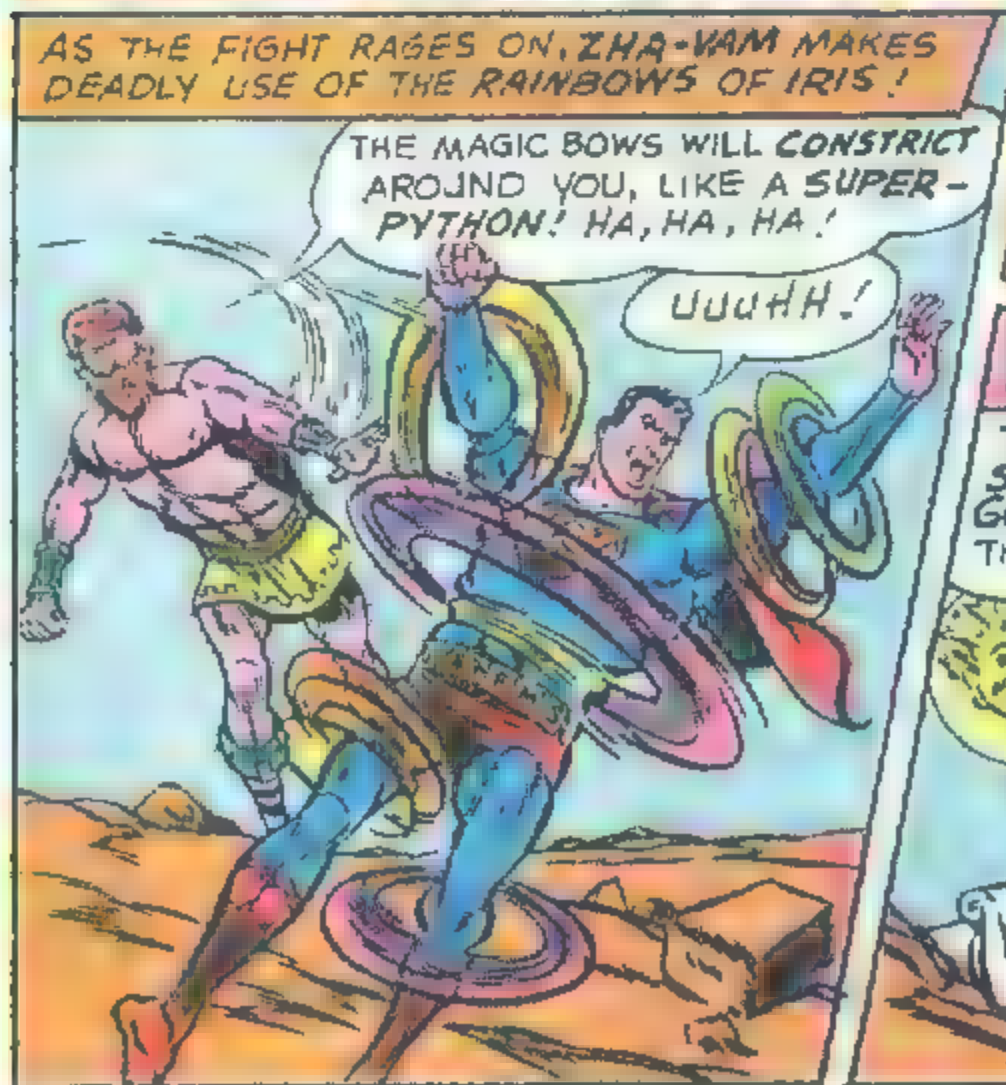
NOTHING CAN SURVIVE THEIR FIERY BREATH!



YOUR PETS DON'T SCARE ME! I'LL STOP THEM WITH MY "M" BUTTON!



IT STANDS FOR MIDAS, WHO HAD THE GOLDEN TOUCH! NOW YOUR DRAGONS WILL BE HARMLESS GOLD STATUES!



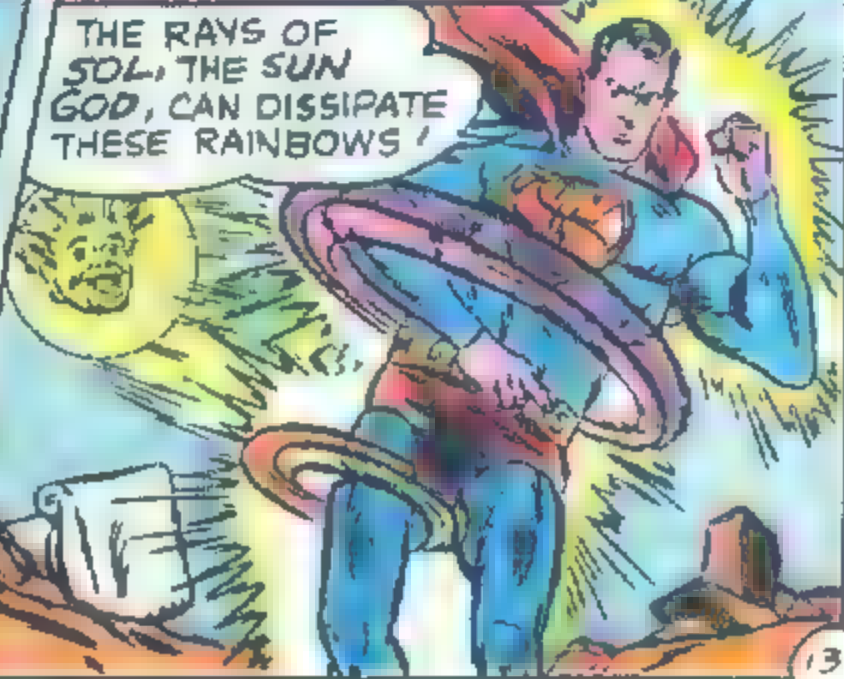
AS THE FIGHT RAGES ON, ZHA-VAM MAKES DEADLY USE OF THE RAINBOWS OF IRIS!

THE MAGIC BOWS WILL CONSTRICT AROUND YOU, LIKE A SUPER-PYTHON! HA, HA, HA!

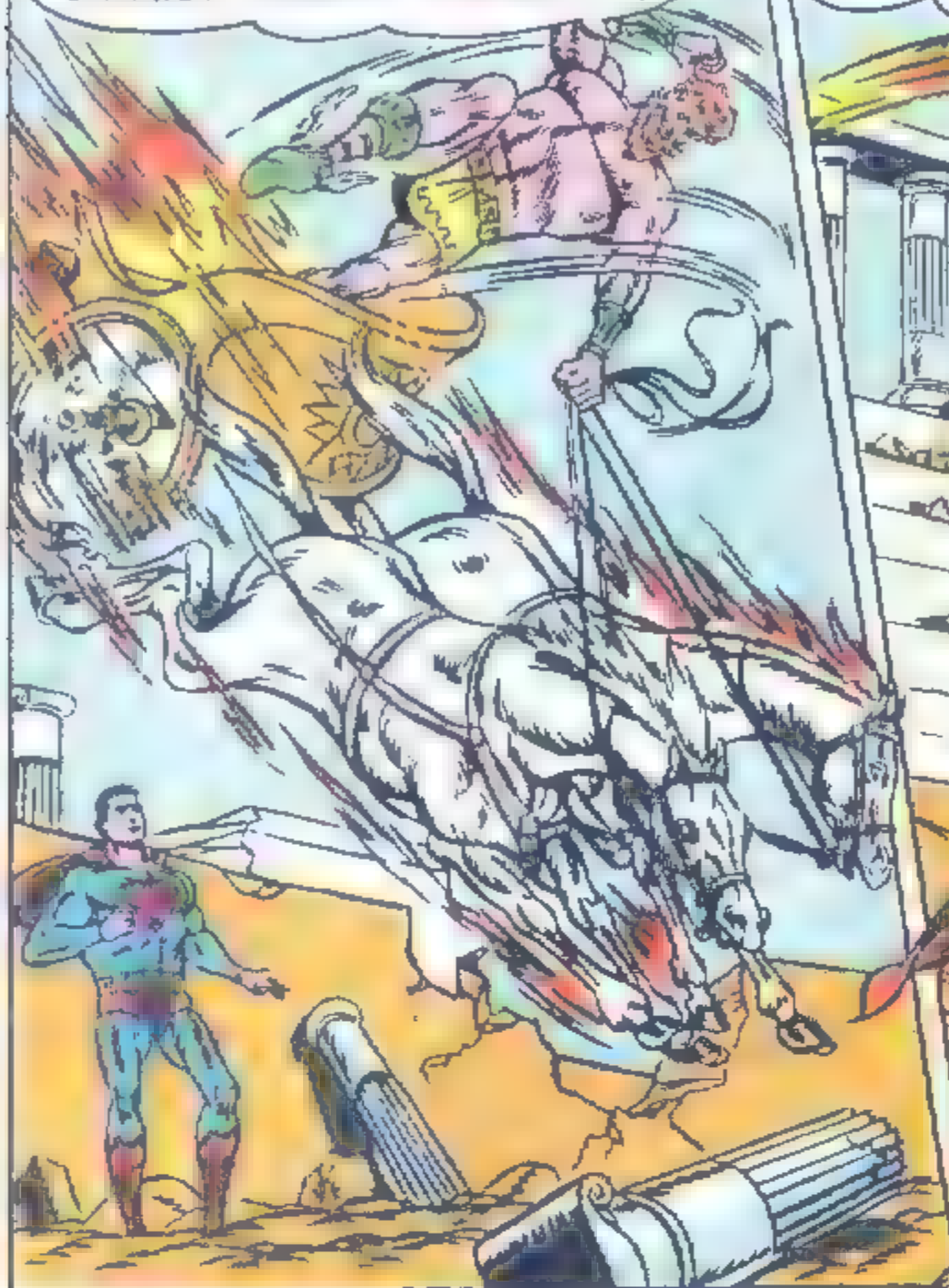
UUUHH!

BUT ANOTHER BUTTON IS PRESSED BY SUPERMAN, AND...

THE RAYS OF SOL, THE SUN GOD, CAN DISSIPATE THESE RAINBOWS!



SPEAKING OF *SUN GODS*, I
ADJUSTED MY "P" BUTTON FOR
PHAETON! HE DROVE THE *SUN-*
CHARIOT AROUND THE EARTH!

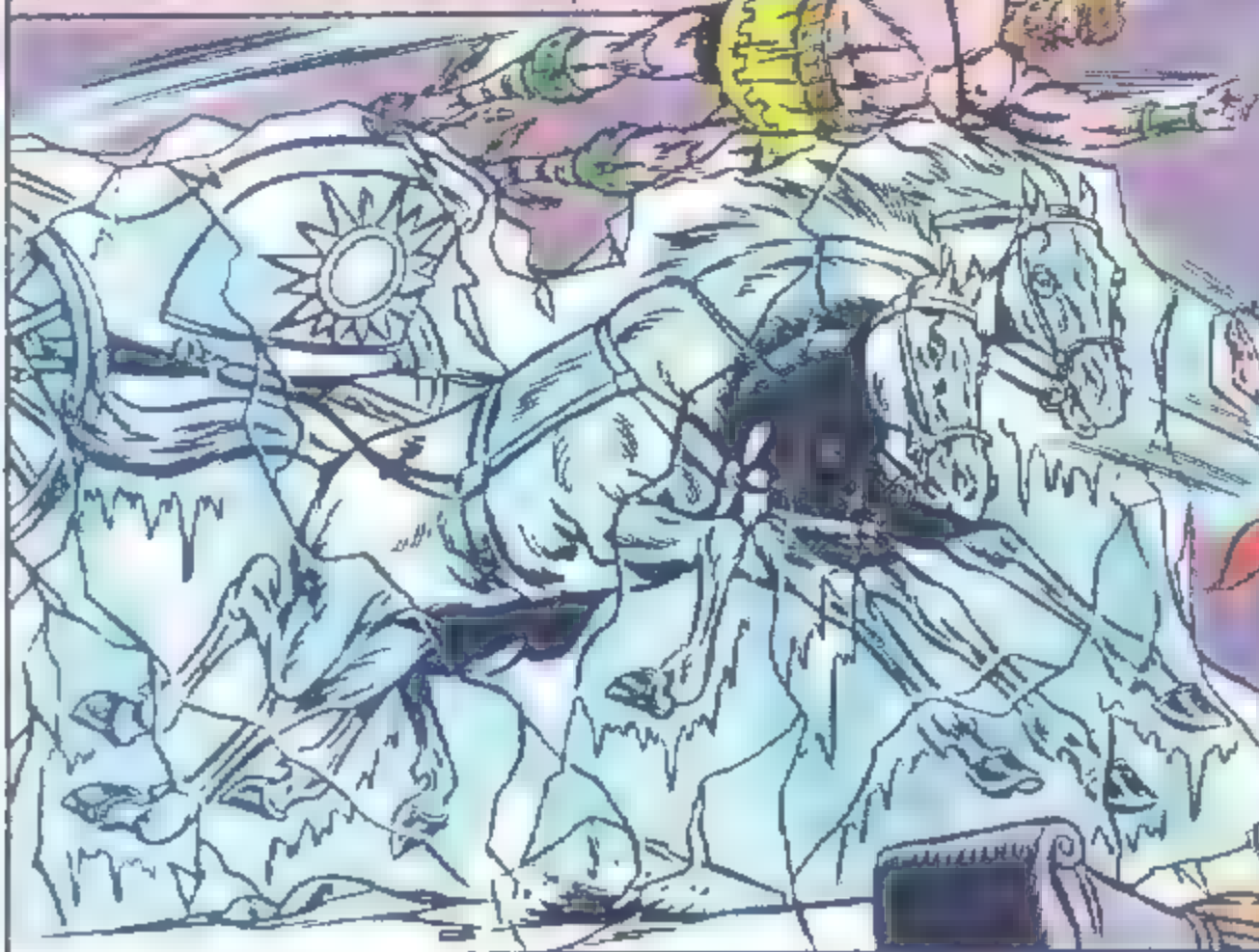


SURRENDER, *SUPERMAN*,
OR I'LL FRY THE WHOLE
EARTH LIKE CRISP BACON!

SEE? THE
CHARIOT'S
FLAMES EVEN
MELT SOLID
STONE!



QUICK-WITTEDLY, THE MAN OF MIGHT
PRESSES HIS "F" BUTTON, AND...



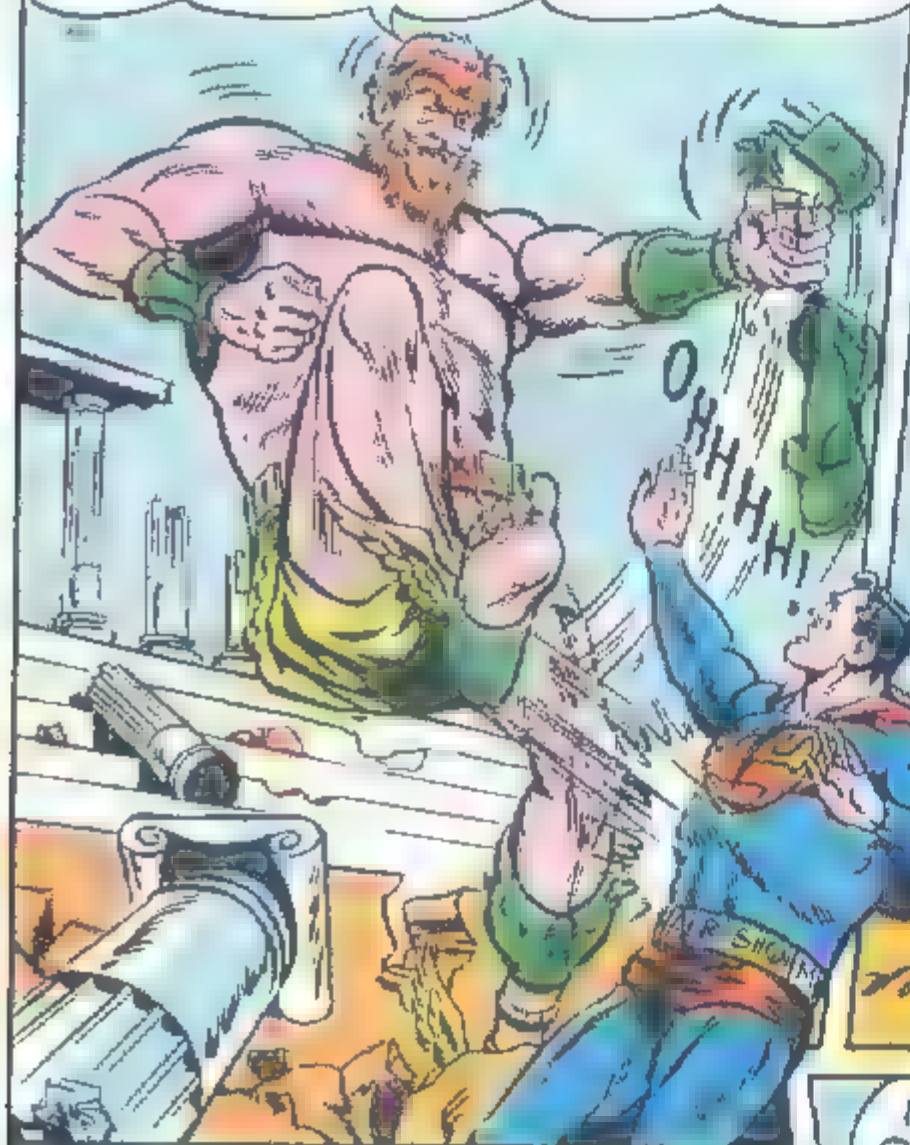
I'LL FIGHT FIRE
WITH ICE... BY
GAINING THE
POWER OF THE
FROST GIANTS OF
THE FROZEN
NORTH!



ENOUGH PLAY, SUPERMAN! OFF WITH MY BOOT, MY LEADEN SHEATH...AND THE GREEN KRYPTONITE SOCK PROTECTING MY ACHILLES' HEEL WILL DESTROY YOU! HA, HA!

THOSE DEADLY RAYS...
GASP!... ONLY ONE CHANCE...
PRESS MY "A" BUTTON TO
SUMMON ATLAS, THE
STRONGEST MAN OF THE
PAST!

HOW CAN I
SERVE YOU,
FRIEND?
WANT ME TO
LIFT THE WHOLE
WORLD AS I
ONCE DID?

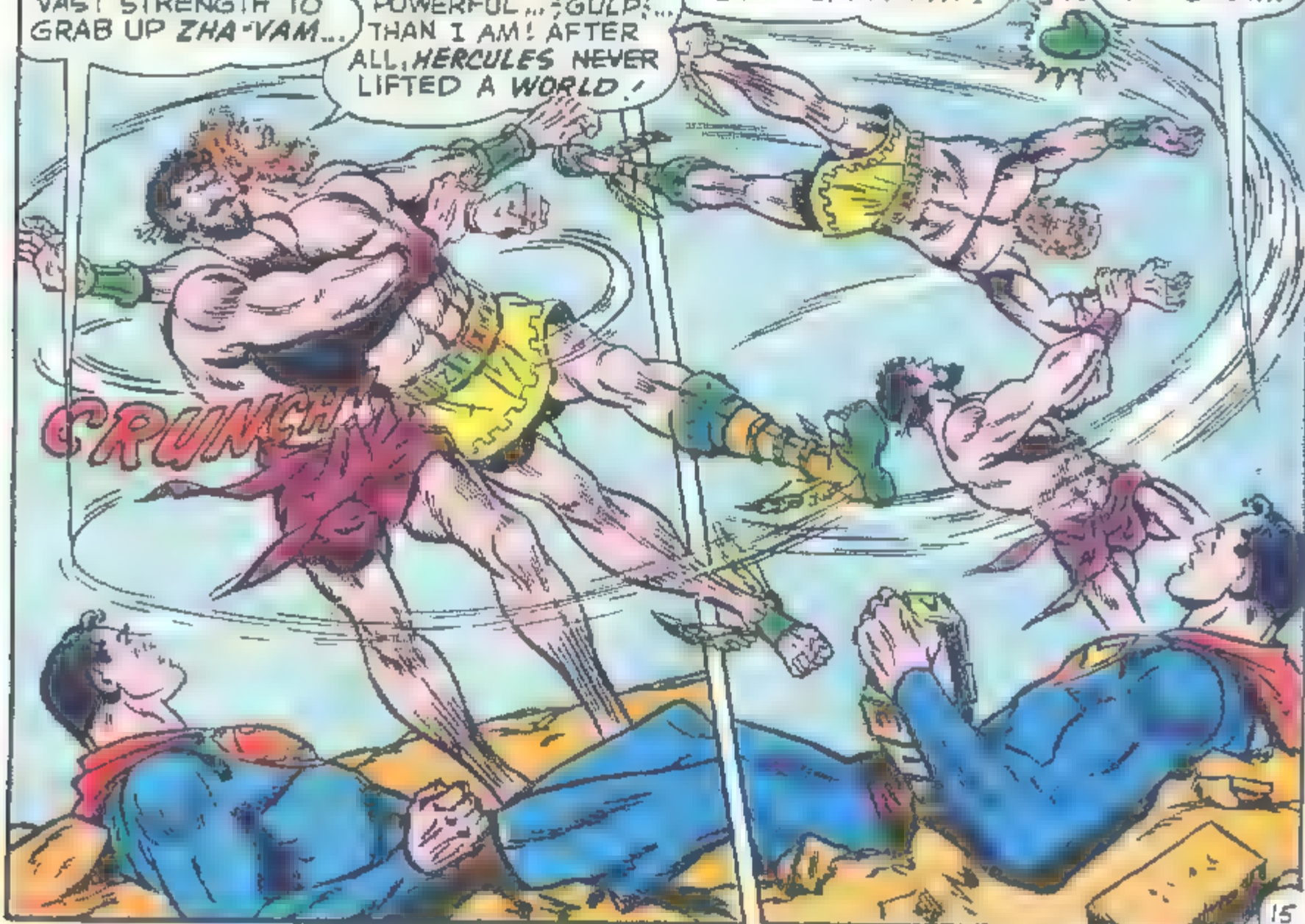


NO, BUT USE YOUR
VAST STRENGTH TO
GRAB UP ZHA-VAM...

HE-HE'S MORE
POWERFUL... GULP!...
THAN I AM! AFTER
ALL, HERCULES NEVER
LIFTED A WORLD!

NOW GIVE ZHA-VAM THE
OLD AIRPLANE SPIN, ATLAS...
WHICH MAKES HIS GREEN K
SOCK SAIL AWAY!

THEN HOLD
HIM DOWN
WHILE I USE
MY BELT...



...TO GIVE HIM A **SUPER-HARD** UNDERHAND **BLOW** ON HIS **ACHILLES' HEEL**, THE ONLY VULNERABLE SPOT HE HAS!

THAT TOOK ALL THE FIGHT OUT OF HIM! NOW I'LL FLY HIM THROUGH THE TIME-BARRIER INTO THE PAST! DESTINATION...**MOUNT OLYMPUS!**

IN THE PAST, AT THE TEMPLE..

HERE'S YOUR GREAT CHAMPION, ZEUS! HE MADE A MISTAKE BY CHALLENGING ME... **SUPERMAN!**

BY ALL THE FUR ES, YOU ARE TRULY AS MIGHTY AS THE ORACLE SAID YOU WOULD BE!

TURN **ZHA-VAM** BACK INTO LIFELESS CLAY, **PROMETHEUS!** HE FAILED! **SUPERMAN** IS MORE POWERFUL THAN ALL OF US PUT TOGETHER!

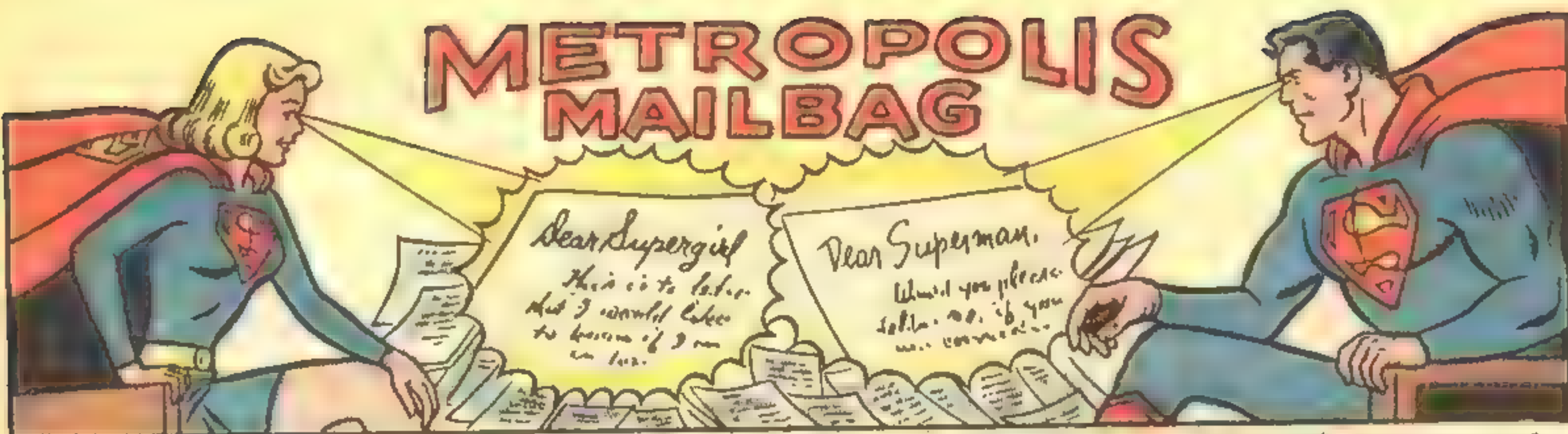
WELL, I GLESS I WON'T HAVE ANY MORE TROUBLE PLAYING **OLYMPIC GAMES** WITH YOU GUYS!

AND BACK IN 1967, WHEN **SUPERMAN** VISITS **MOUNT OLYMPUS**..

THEIR TEMPLE IS ABANDONED, JUST AS THE ORACLE PREDICTED! THE **OLYMPIANS** HAVE VANISHED INTO **LIMBO!**

AND ONLY THESE RUINS REMAIN, AS A MONUMENT TO THE FAILURE OF **ZHA-VAM!**

METROPOLIS MAILBAG



Dear Editor: On page 6 of the "Stone-Age Superman" story, the "B" on the 5-dollar bill means that it was made in New York, but you have two small 5's in the corners (I don't mean the big five which indicates the bill's denomination). These small 5's should be 2's, since that is New York's number.

—Greg Stanton, Roselle Park, N.J.

(Have a heart, Greg! If we printed an EXACT copy of a 5-dollar bill, we might be arrested for counterfeiting!—Ed.)

Dear Editor: I've seen most of your double-page pin-ups of DC super-heroes. But how about printing some of villains, like Lex Luthor or Brainiac? I'd sure like to pin *them* up!

—C.A. Willis, San Quentin, Calif.

(We notice your return address is a box-number in San Quentin. Did one of your pals smuggle it out of the prison there? Not that we *know* you're a convict . . . but we can't imagine a guard idolizing Superman's arch-enemies!—Ed.)

Dear Editor: I was reading ACTION No. 349, about Dr. Kryptonite, when I came to the transfusion scene. I noticed that as the liquid Kryptonite was pumped into the man's body, there was no machine taking out the blood it replaced. All the bottles were filled with liquid K, even at the end of the transfusion. Why is this? All the same, I liked the story very much.

—Jonathan Turkle, Brooklyn, N.Y.

(If you'll remember, the doc said, "The volunteer's body will tolerate only a few drops of Kryptonite each day." At this rate, it wasn't necessary to drain any blood to make way for it, since a certain amount of blood is used up by the body each day, anyway.—Ed.)

Dear Editor: Curt Swan's artwork is super, but I would like to see how Wayne Boring would do on a cover. How about giving him a chance? It's getting monotonous seeing Curt's work on *every* ACTION cover!

—Dennis Myers, Ft. Smith, Ark.

(How about this issue, Denny? Wayne did the cover, illustrating "The Battle of the Gods."—Ed.)

Dear Editor: Stanhope College must be a very rich school. They got a new library in ACTION No. 318, and now, in "Supergirl's Black Deeds" (No. 349) they get another new one.

—Steve Gordon, Springfield, Mass.

(The school isn't that rich, but it has a wealthy,

eccentric benefactor who likes to build libraries for kicks.—Ed.)

Dear Editor: I notice, in ACTION No. 349, that you have a villain called Dr. Kane, who takes the name of Dr. Kryptonite? Is that "Doctor" business legitimate? Is he a member of the A.M.A.?

—Eddie Gates, Yuma, Ariz.

(Sure—the Association of Mobsters and Assassins.—Ed.)

Dear Editor: I've been watching your magazines like a hawk and I have yet to find any clues to what you have planned for the 200th issue of SUPERMAN. When are you going to give us a hint?

—George Fales, Salem, Ore.

(Right now! SUPERMAN No. 200 features a new Imaginary Tale with some surprise twists we'll bet you never expected to see in *any* magazine! And here's the hint you asked for—you *may* see *two* Supermen on the cover!—Ed.)

Dear Editor: In many stories, you show Superman and Krypto willing their hearts and lungs to stop, so they can play dead for hours at a time. It seems to me they would stay dead if these organs weren't working. If not, they certainly *are* invulnerable. In fact, since only Kryptonite can kill them, that would make them immortal, wouldn't it?

—Karl Lanocho, Baltimore, Md.

(If anything at all can kill them, they aren't immortal! As for stopping their hearts and lungs, anyone can hold his breath for a short time, and history tells of several men who had trained themselves to control their muscles till they could stop their hearts for brief periods. Superman and Krypto, being super, can do the same thing, but for a much longer period of time.—Ed.)

Dear Editor: After reading "The Secret of the Stone-Age Superman," I must say that I'm quite surprised at you. Our sun wasn't red in prehistoric times, nor has it ever been. A red sun is one that is very cool. Our sun then was a very hot, yellow-white one. Next time you print a story like this, I suggest you go to the Encyclopedia and look up the facts.

—Cheryl Glenn, Bronx, N.Y.

(We looked 'em up. Our information is that there are *two* kinds of red suns—one can be an early stage of the life of a sun. Later on, it may become a red giant, but after that, the final stage is a white dwarf—the HOTTEST star there is.—Ed.)

SUPERGIRL

GR-GREAT K-KRYPTON!
WHY, THESE CREATURES
FROM OUTER SPACE
ARE... NO, NO!...
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

WELCOME! WE
KNOW YOU, SUPERGIRL,
AND WE NEED YOU ON
OUR WORLD FOR A
SPECIAL PURPOSE!
BID EARTH GOODBYE...
YOU WILL NEVER
RETURN TO IT AGAIN!

WHAT WEIRD LIFE-FORMS ARE THESE THAT
CAN STARTLE EVEN THE GIRL OF STEEL?
HUMANIDS?... MONSTER-MEN?... INTELLIGENT
ANIMALS?... BRAINY INSECTS? NO, NOTHING SO
ORDINARY! WHAT SUPERGIRL RUNS INTO
THIS TIME IS A GROUP OF THE MOST UNBELIEVABLE
THINGS IN THE UNIVERSE! AND THEIR MISSION
IS EVEN MORE FANTASTIC, FOR THEY ARE...

"THE
COSMIC
COLLECTORS!"

AT STANNHOPE COLLEGE, LINDA (SUPERGIRL) DANVERS
AND TWO COED FRIENDS VISIT A CERTAIN OFFICE...

SINCE THE GUIDANCE COUNSELOR
TOLD US WE COULD EARN
EXTRA CREDITS BY TAKING
PART-TIME JOBS, WE MAY
AS WELL TRY IT! GOOD
LUCK, LINDA

HOPE THEY
HAVE SOMETHING
EXCITING
FOR US!

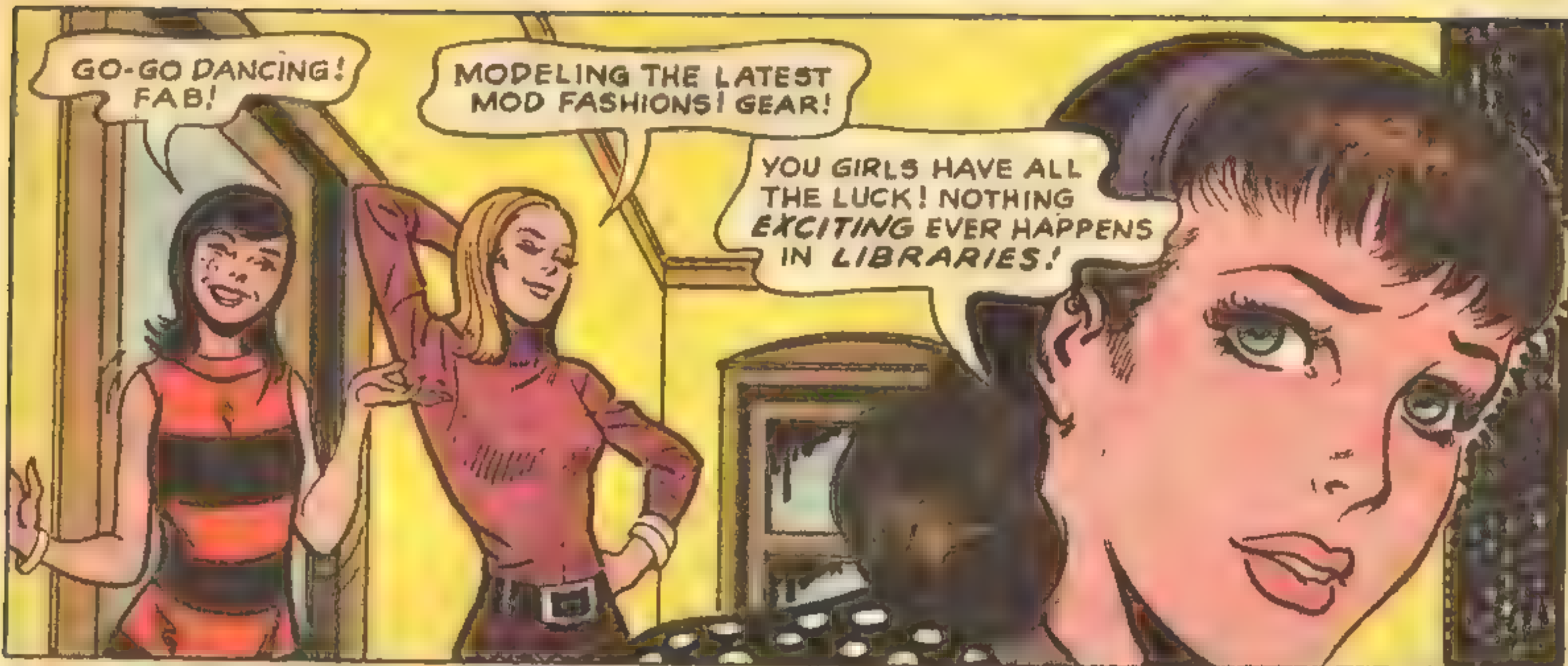
SCHOOL
EMPLOYMENT
SERVICE

YES... FOR TWO OF THEM!

THE CAMPUS CLUB
DISCOTHEQUE
NEEDS A
DANCER, ALICE!

BETTY, YOU WILL
MODEL CLOTHES
AT CARNABY
CENTER! AND
LINDA, YOU'LL BE
A LIBRARIAN!

OH, DEAR... UH...
I MEAN,
THANK YOU!



GO-GO DANCING!
FAB!

MODELING THE LATEST
MOD FASHIONS! GEAR!

YOU GIRLS HAVE ALL
THE LUCK! NOTHING
EXCITING EVER HAPPENS
IN LIBRARIES!

BUT LINDA IS WRONG...FOR A MYSTERY
ARISES DURING HER FIRST DAY ON THE JOB...



I'LL TAKE THESE SIX
BOOKS OUT, PLEASE!

HEAVENS! THIS STUDENT...
JOE TRENT, WILL TAKE
WEEKS TO STAGGER
THROUGH THESE
SCIENTIFIC WORKS!

DIVERGENT MAGNETIC
THEORY
GEOPHYSICS
GRAVITY
PHENOMENA
ASTROPHYSICS
COSMOLOGY

BUT THE VERY NEXT DAY, WHEN LINDA
AGAIN IS ON DUTY...

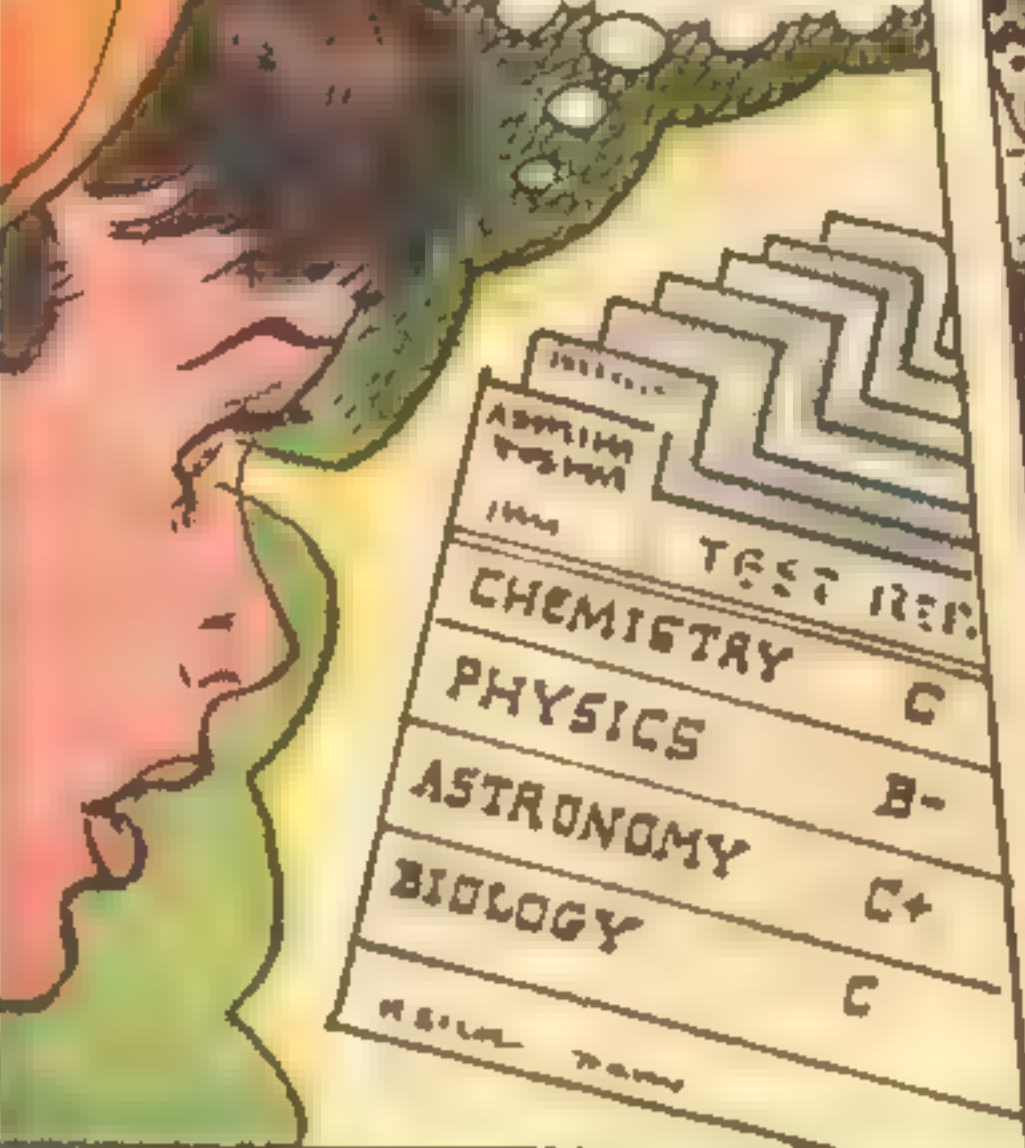


Y-YOU MEAN...(GASP)...
YOU'VE GONE THROUGH
THOSE SIX BOOKS AND
WANT TEN MORE?

YES! THESE
NEW ONES ARE
NOT SO
ELEMENTARY!

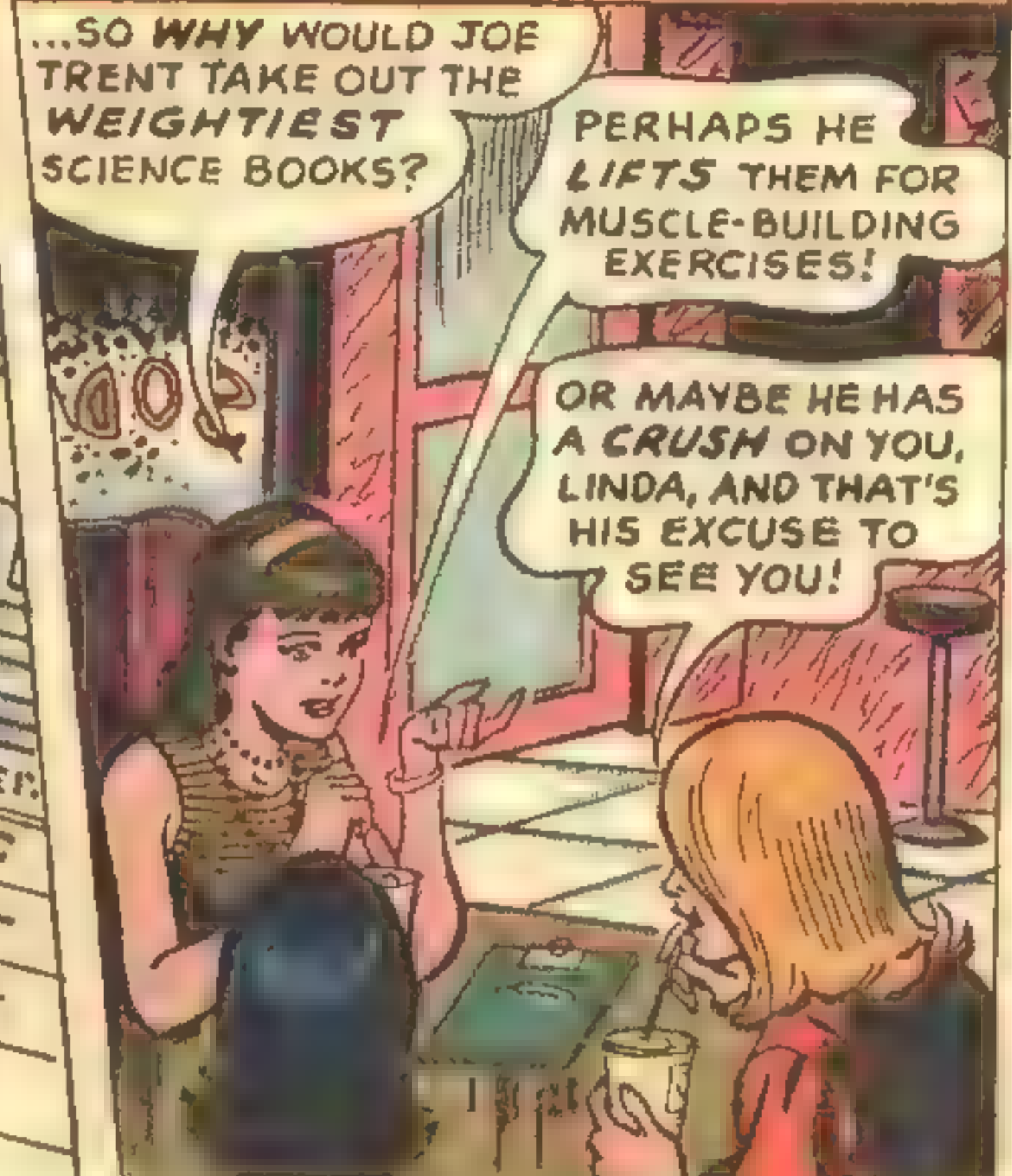
AS LINDA USES HER SUPER-
VISION TO CHECK THE
COLLEGE RECORDS OFFICE...

WHY, HE'S ONLY A "C"
STUDENT! HOW CAN HE
POSSIBLY MASTER
THOSE SCIENCE
BOOKS
OVERNIGHT?



ADMISSION	TEST
1966	RECORD
CHEMISTRY	C
PHYSICS	B-
ASTRONOMY	C+
BIOLOGY	C

WHEN LINDA TELLS HER FRIENDS
ABOUT JOE'S READING HABITS...



...SO WHY WOULD JOE
TRENT TAKE OUT THE
WEIGHTEST
SCIENCE BOOKS?

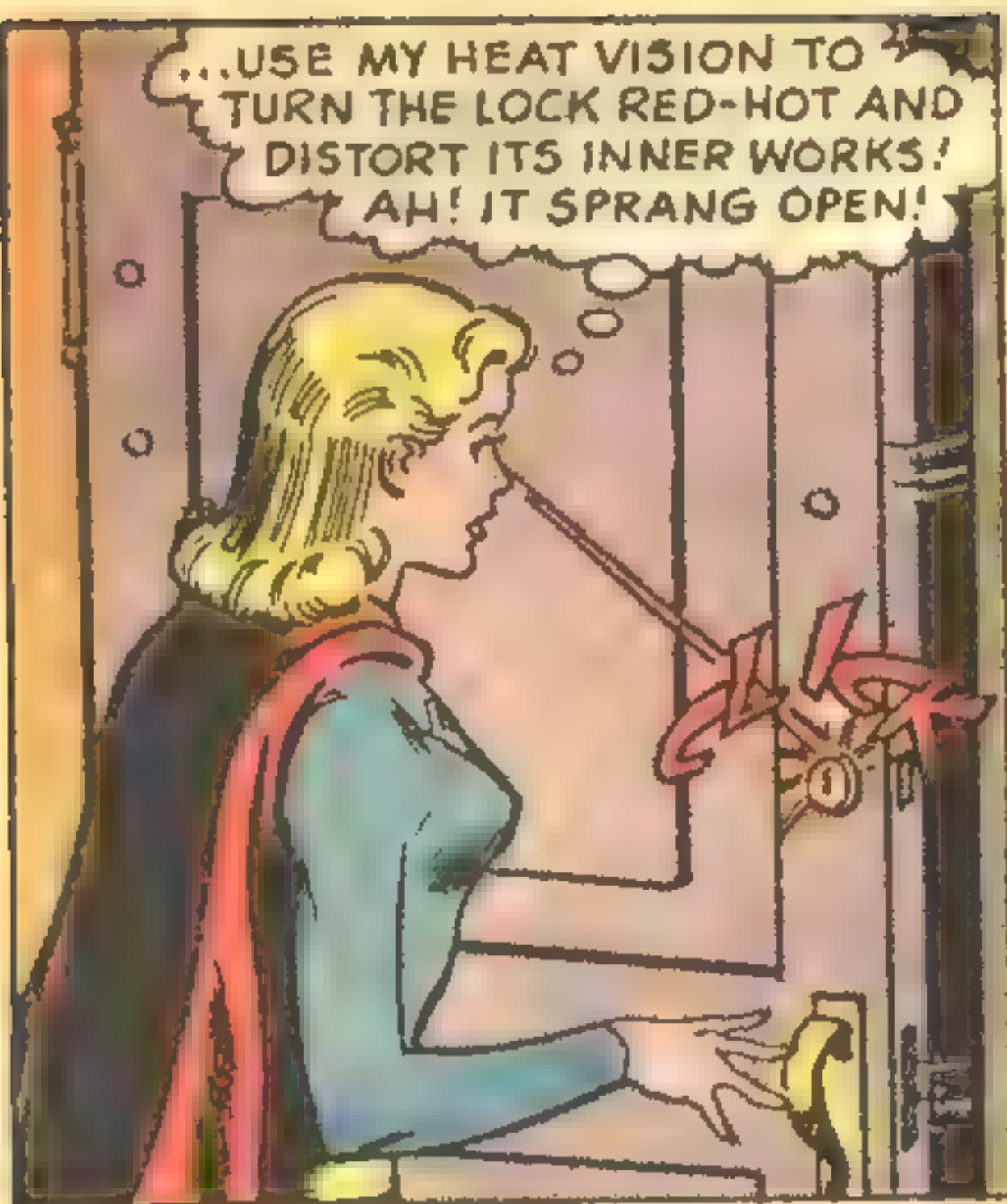
PERHAPS HE
LIFTS THEM FOR
MUSCLE-BUILDING
EXERCISES!

OR MAYBE HE HAS
A CRUSH ON YOU,
LINDA, AND THAT'S
HIS EXCUSE TO
SEE YOU!

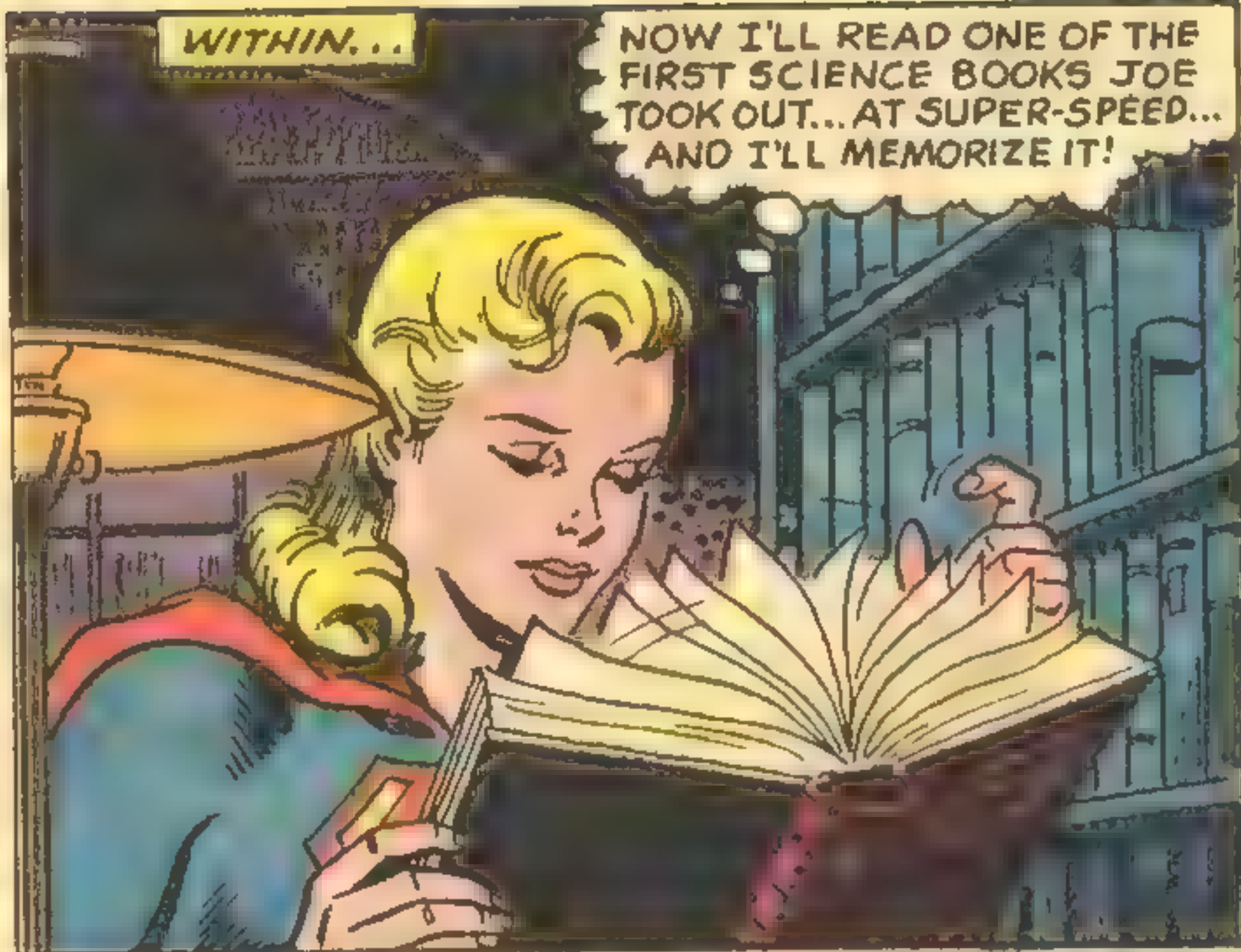
THAT NIGHT, IN LINDA'S
DORMITORY, A FAST
SWITCHEROO, AND...

THE JOE TRENT MYSTERY
BUGS ME! I HAVE AN
IDEA! I'LL FLY TO THE
LIBRARY, AND...



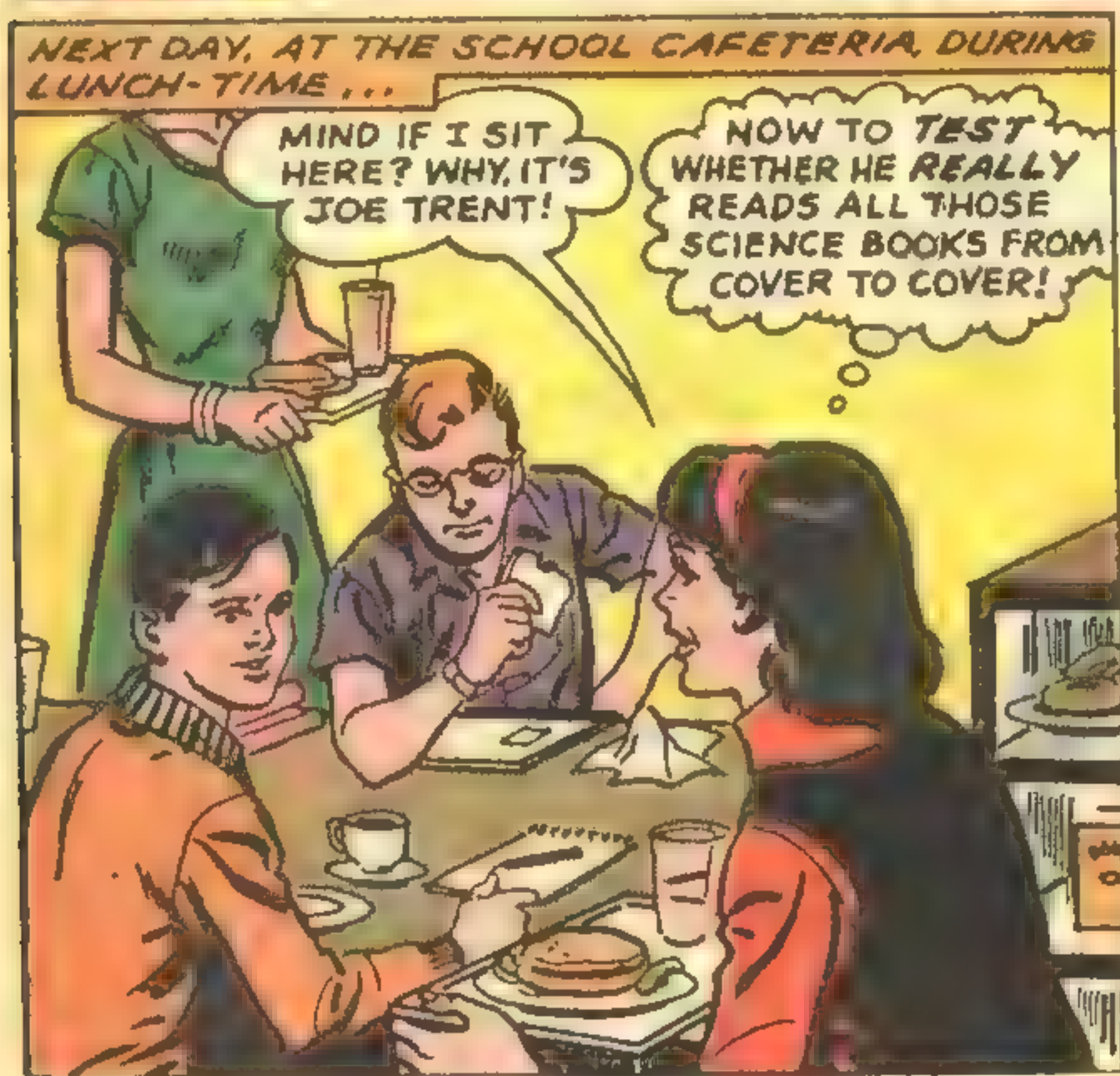


...USE MY HEAT VISION TO TURN THE LOCK RED-HOT AND DISTORT ITS INNER WORKS! AH! IT SPRANG OPEN!



WITHIN...

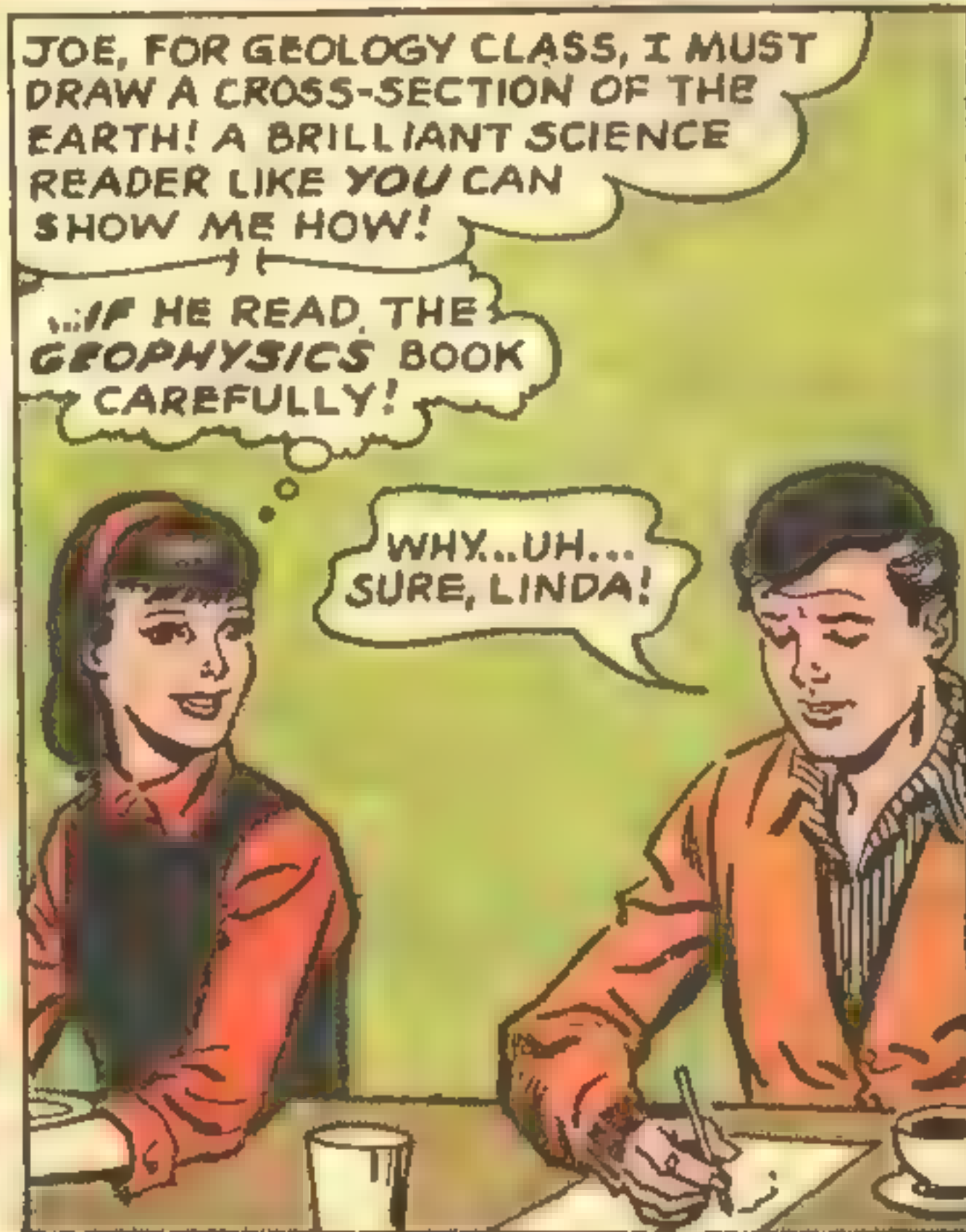
NOW I'LL READ ONE OF THE FIRST SCIENCE BOOKS JOE TOOK OUT... AT SUPER-SPEED... AND I'LL MEMORIZE IT!



NEXT DAY, AT THE SCHOOL CAFETERIA, DURING LUNCH-TIME...

MIND IF I SIT HERE? WHY, IT'S JOE TRENT!

NOW TO TEST WHETHER HE REALLY READS ALL THOSE SCIENCE BOOKS FROM COVER TO COVER!



JOE, FOR GEOLOGY CLASS, I MUST DRAW A CROSS-SECTION OF THE EARTH! A BRILLIANT SCIENCE READER LIKE YOU CAN SHOW ME HOW!

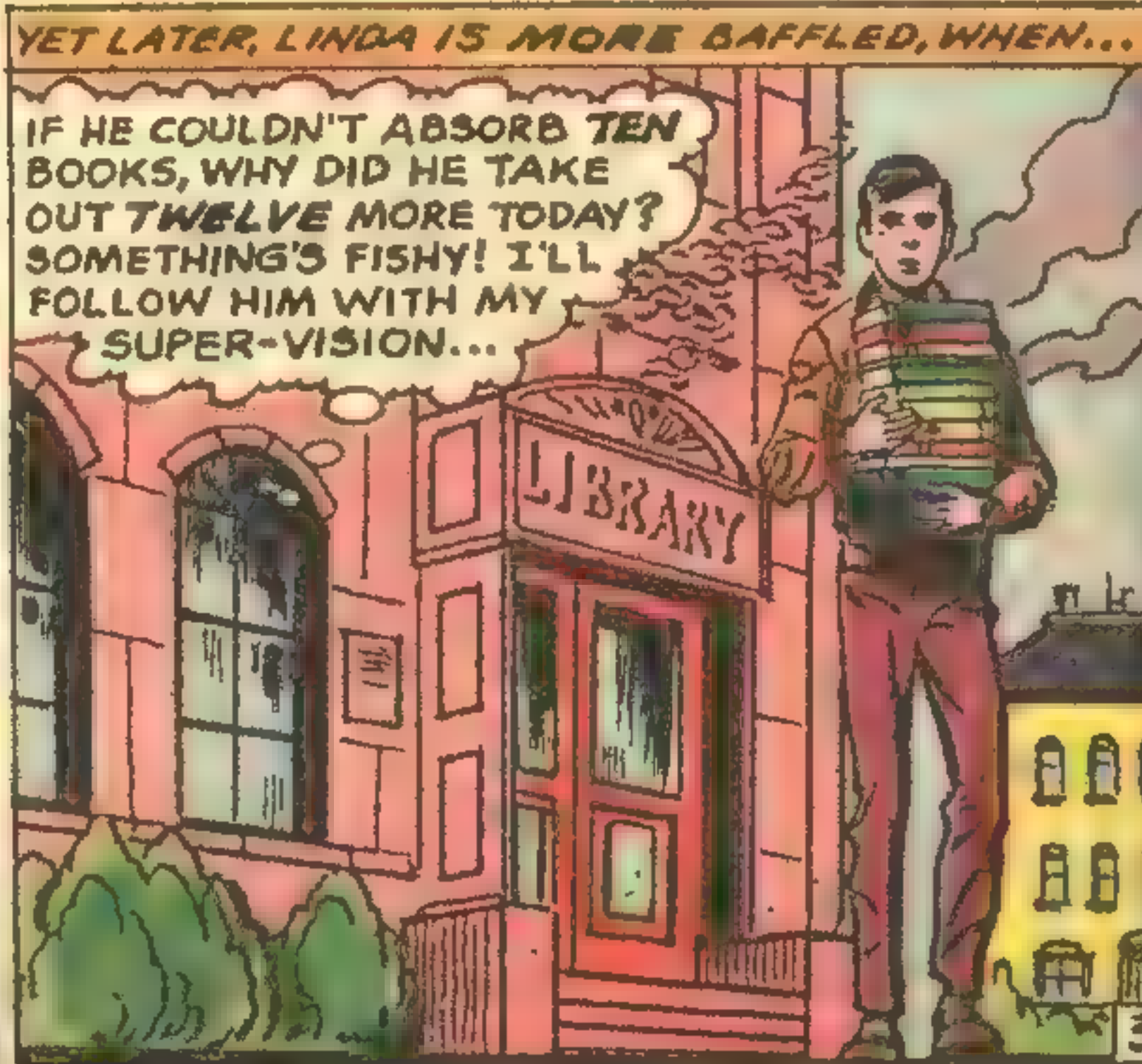
...IF HE READ THE GEOPHYSICS BOOK CAREFULLY!

WHY...UH... SURE, LINDA!



BUT, JOE...EVEN I KNOW THE EARTH'S CRUST IS ONLY 25 MILES THICK! AND ITS DIAMETER IS 8,000 MILES, NOT 5,000!

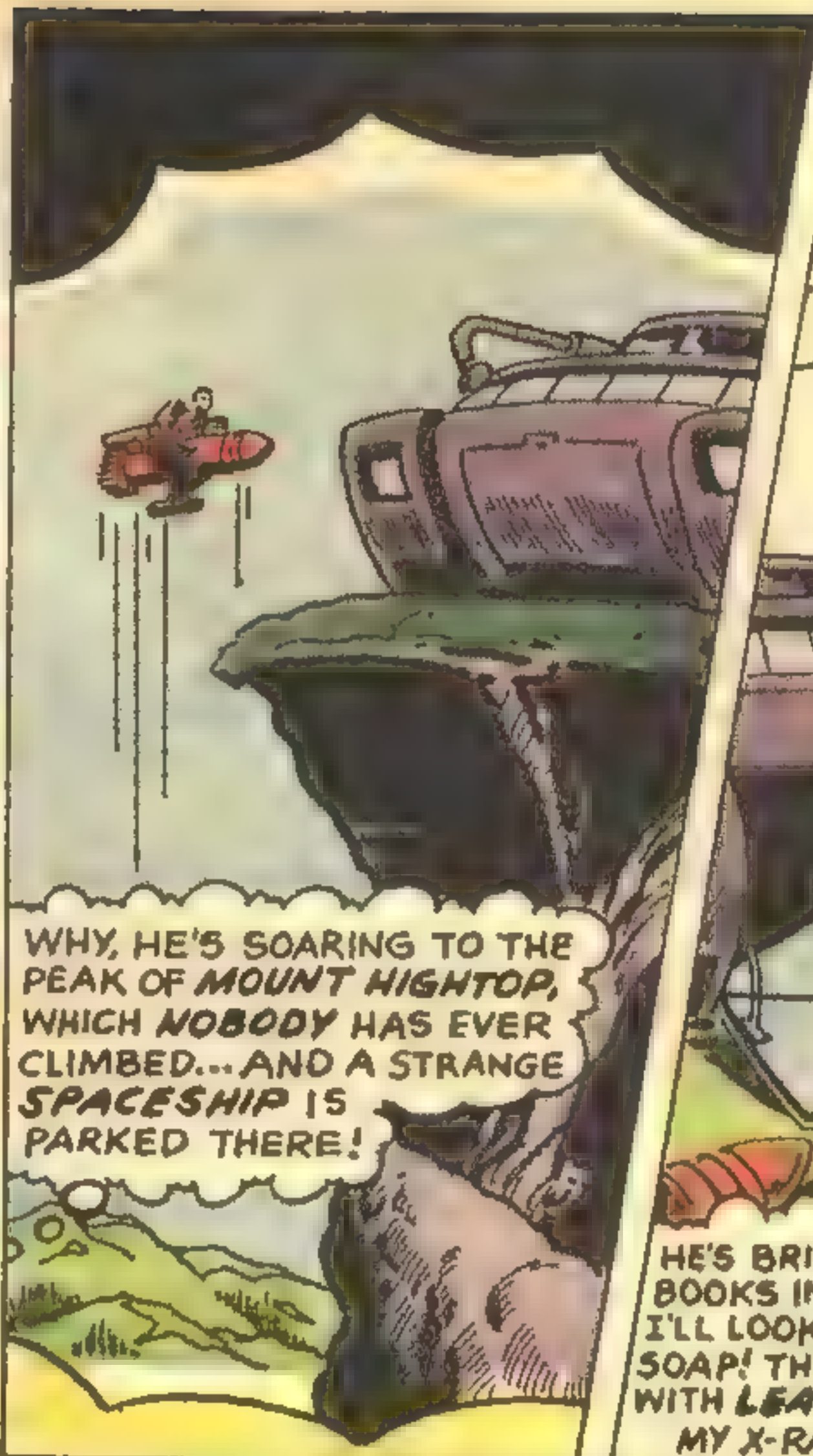
UH...GUESS I FORGOT WHAT I READ! SORRY I COULDN'T HELP!



YET LATER, LINDA IS MORE BAFFLED, WHEN...

IF HE COULDN'T ABSORB TEN BOOKS, WHY DID HE TAKE OUT TWELVE MORE TODAY? SOMETHING'S FISHY! I'LL FOLLOW HIM WITH MY SUPER-VISION...

HE WENT TO A NEARBY PATCH OF WOODS AND TOOK OFF IN A STRANGE LITTLE CRAFT HE HAD HIDDEN THERE! WHERE IS HE TAKING THE BOOKS?



WHY, HE'S SOARING TO THE PEAK OF MOUNT HIGHTOP, WHICH NOBODY HAS EVER CLIMBED... AND A STRANGE SPACESHIP IS PARKED THERE!

ENTER, EARTHLING MESSENGER!

HE'S BRINGING THE BOOKS IN... BUT TO WHOM? I'LL LOOK INSIDE... NO SOAP! THE SHIP'S SHIELDED WITH LEAD, WHICH STOPS MY X-RAY VISION!

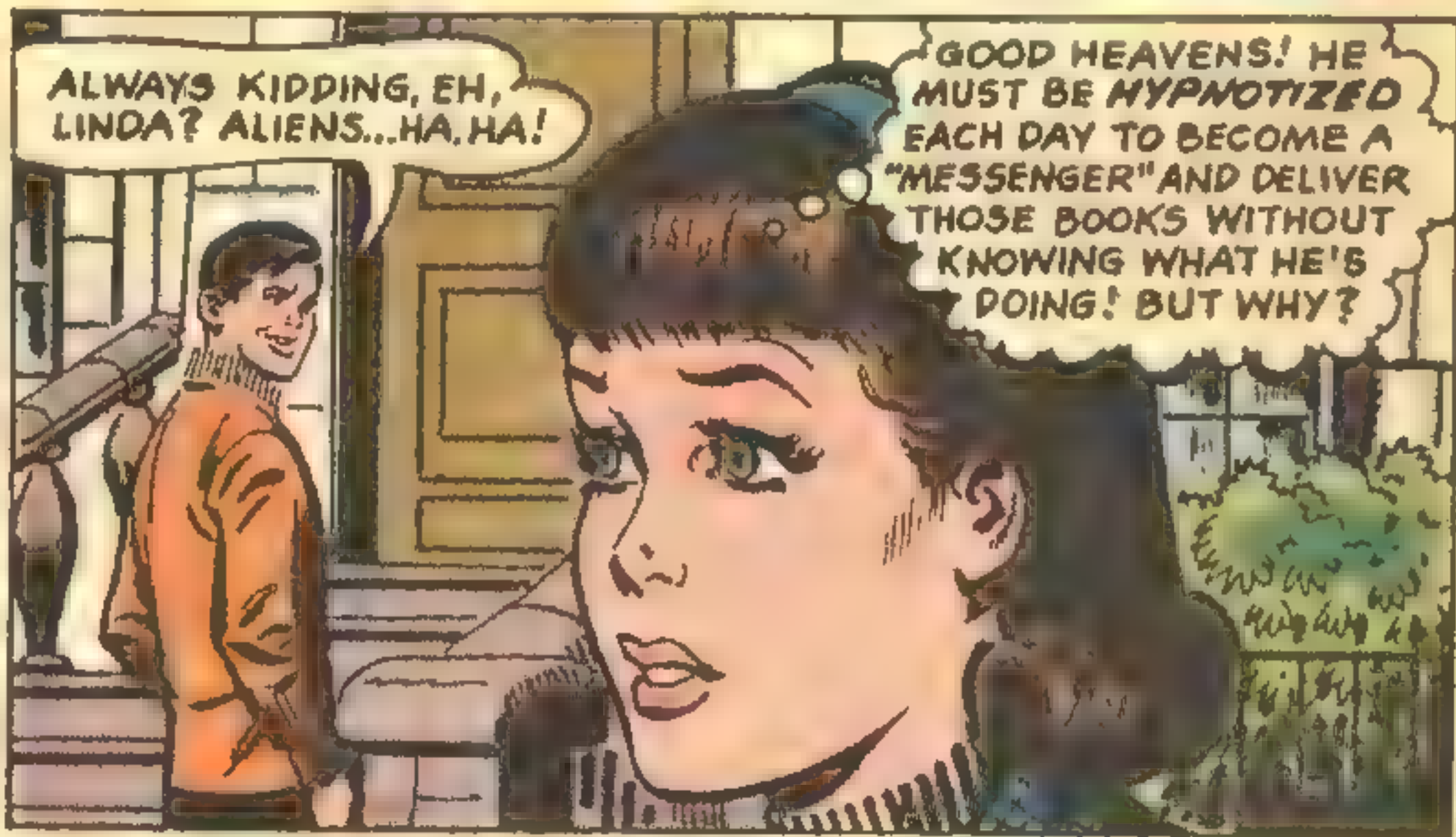
LINDA IS WAITING AT JOE'S DORMITORY WHEN HE RETURNS...

UH... WH-WHERE AM I?

HE ACTS LIKE HE JUST SNAPPED OUT OF A TRANCE!

JOE... ER... SUPERGIRL TIPPED ME OFF WHERE YOU GO EACH DAY! TELL ME ABOUT THOSE ALIENS IN THE SPACESHIP!

ALWAYS KIDDING, EH, LINDA? ALIENS... HA, HA!

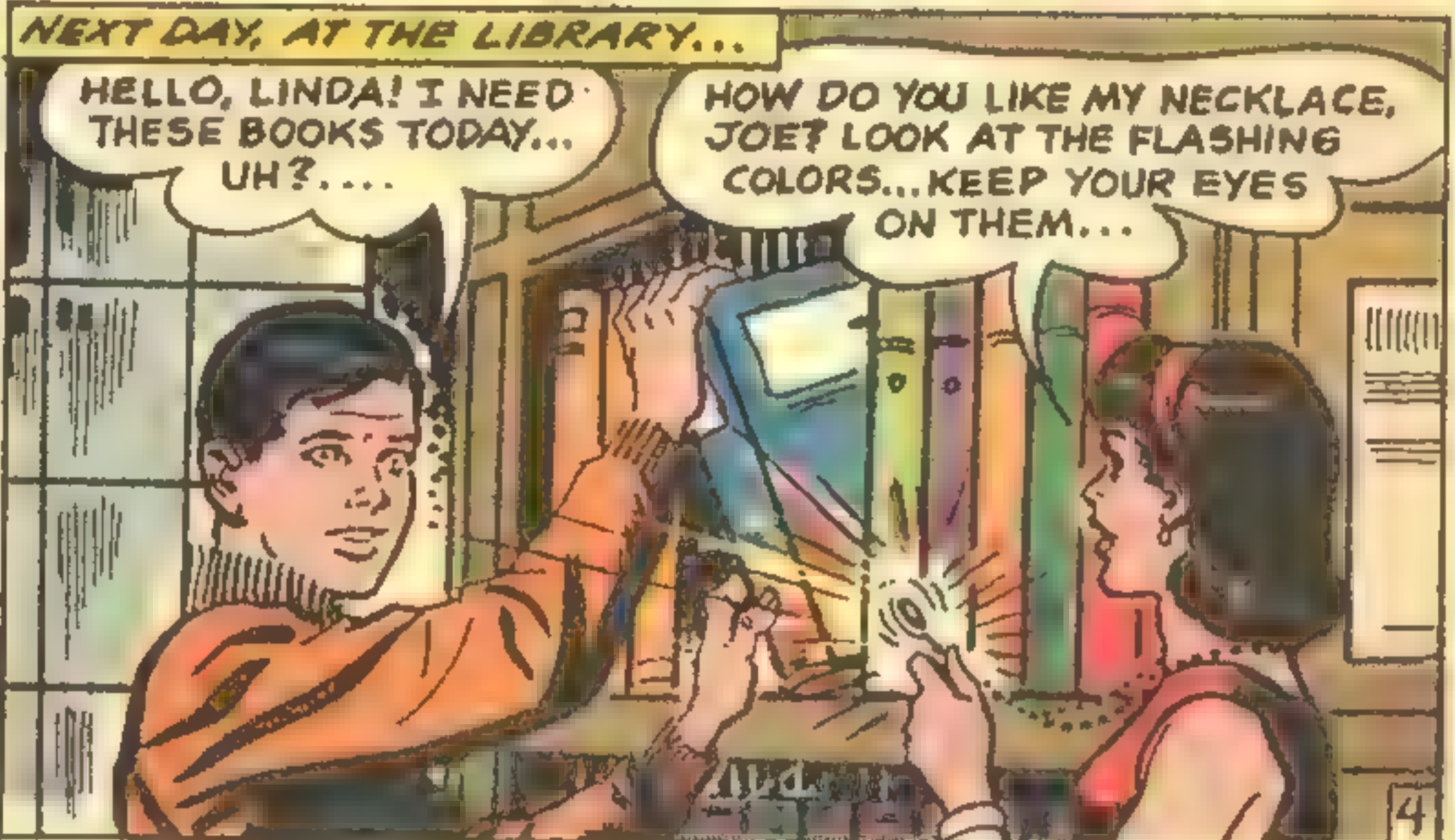


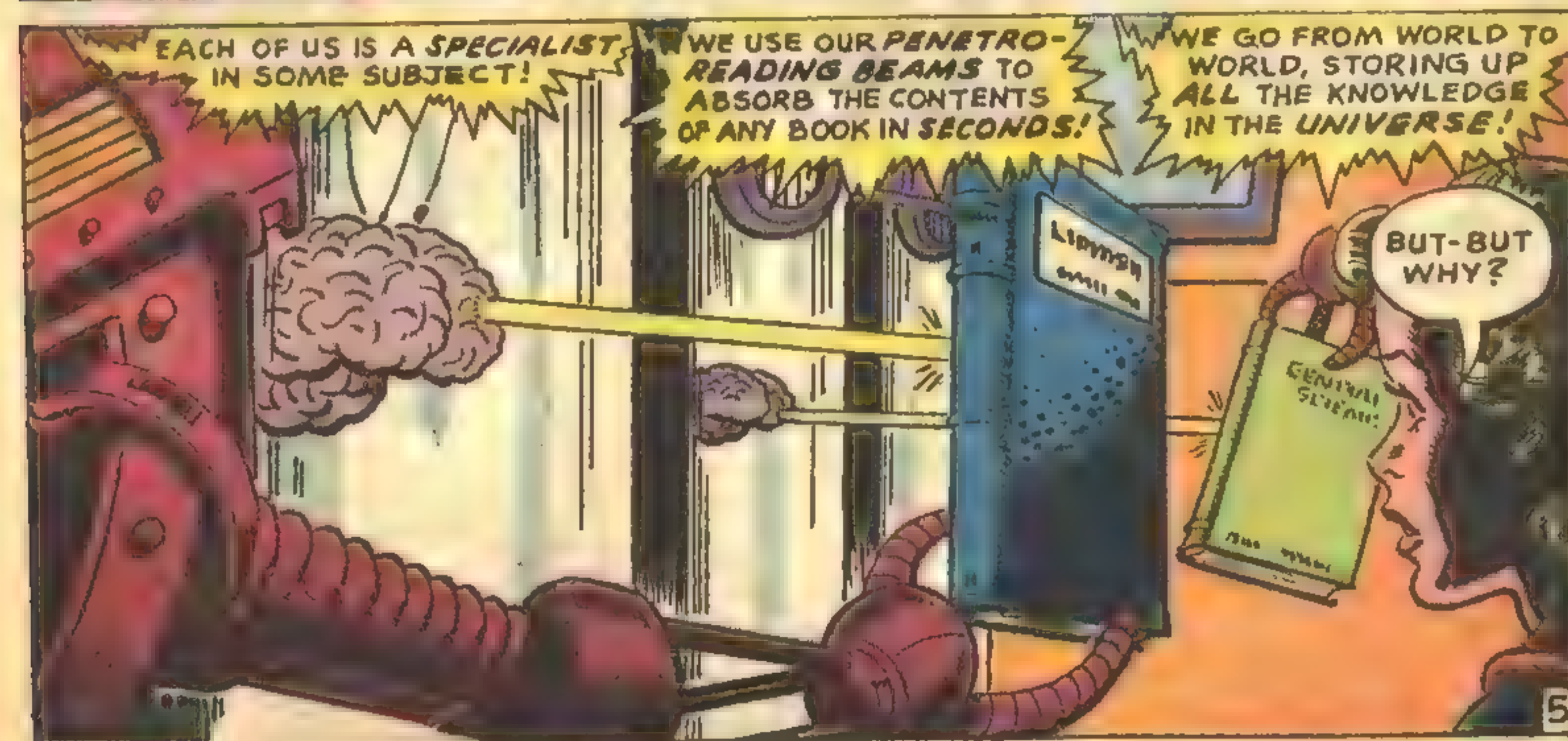
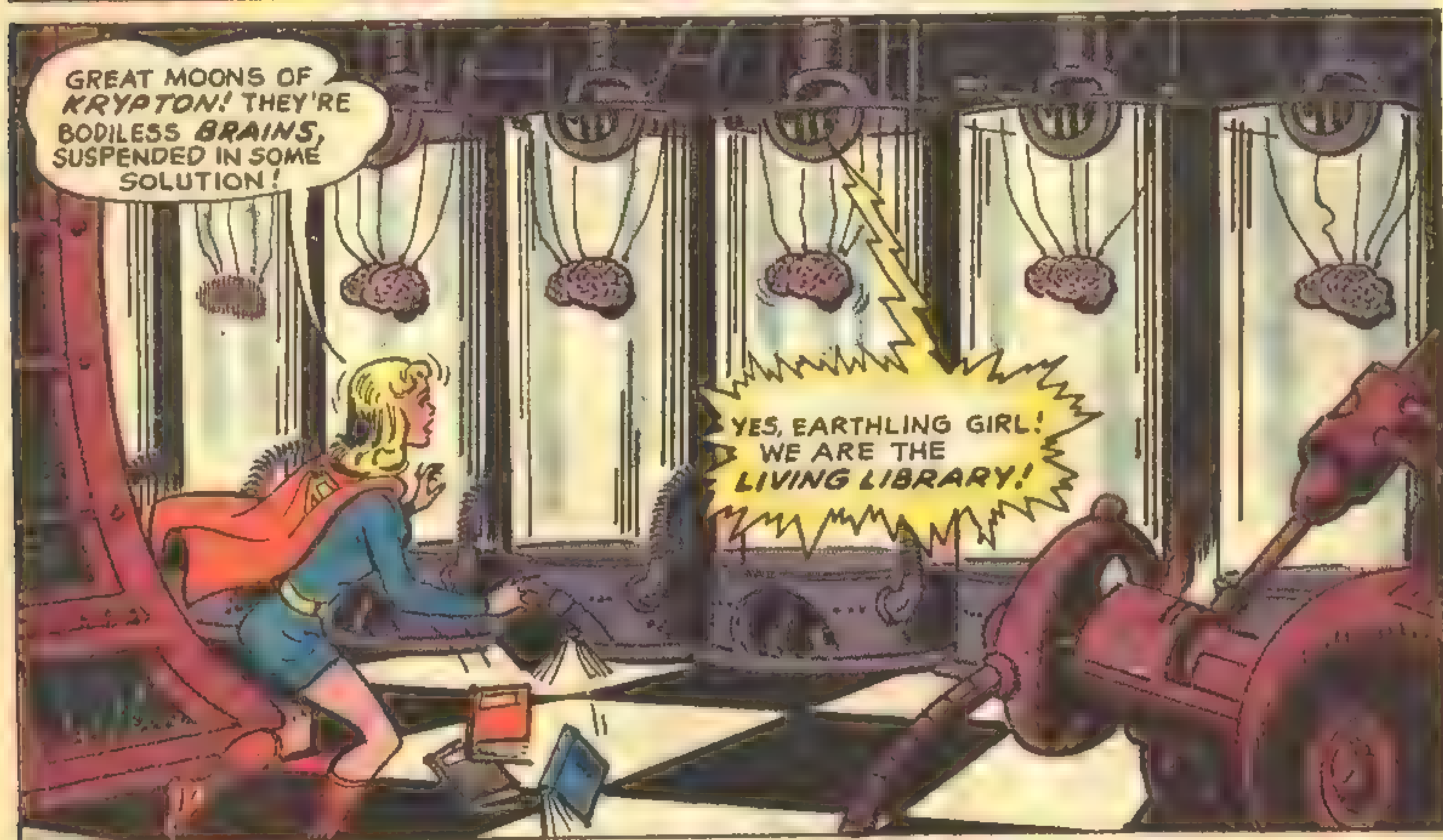
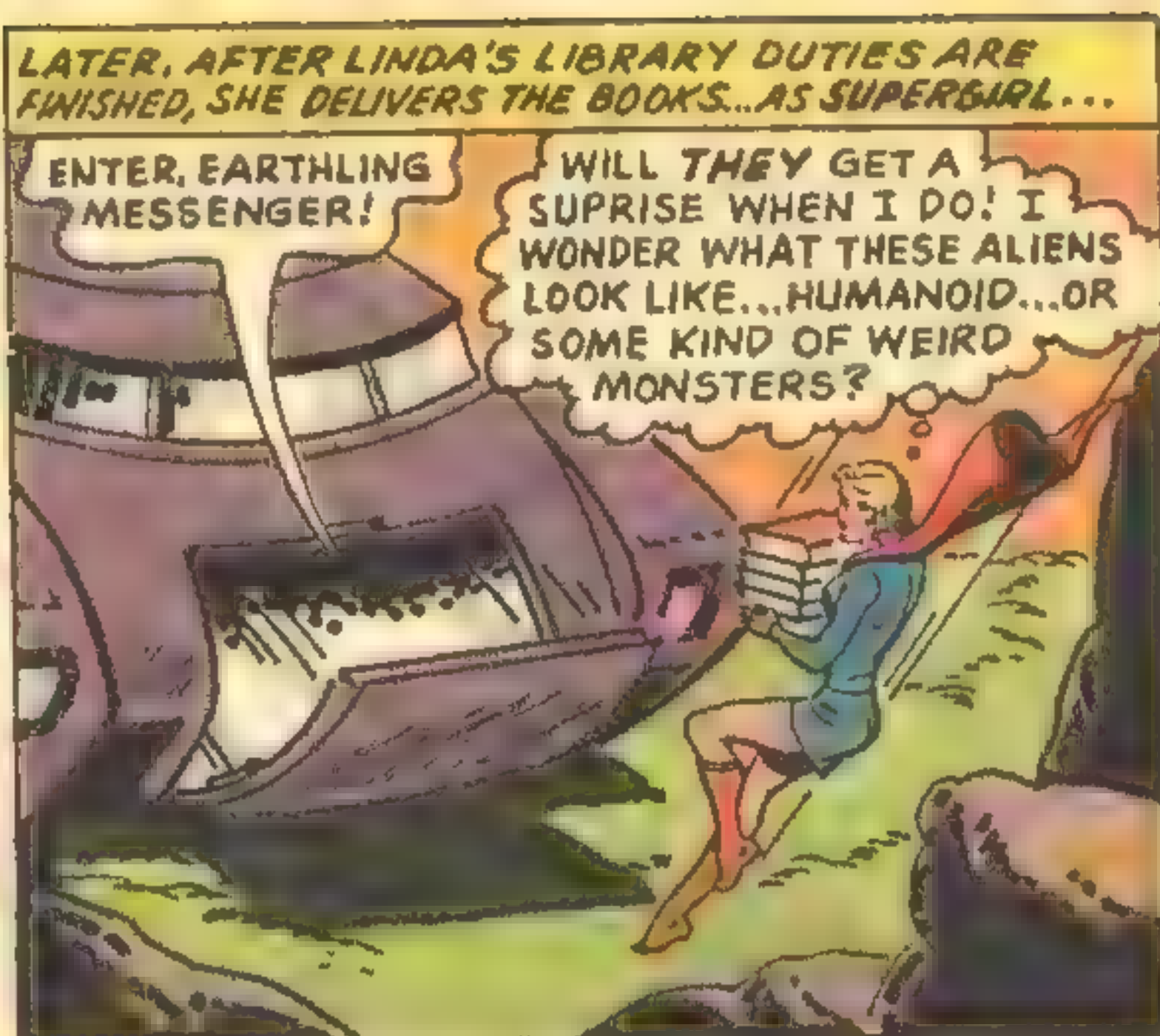
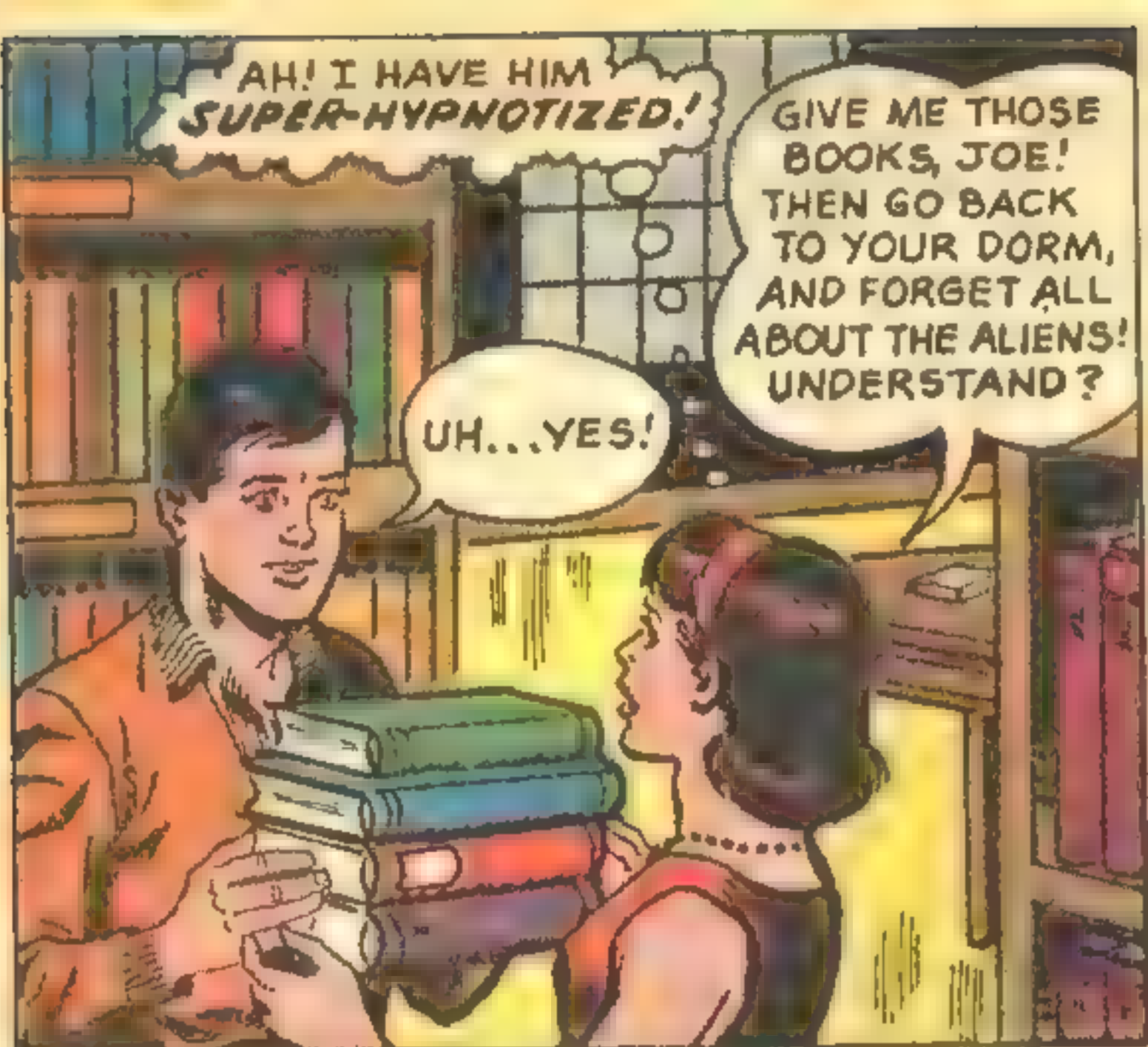
GOOD HEAVENS! HE MUST BE HYPNOTIZED EACH DAY TO BECOME A "MESSENGER" AND DELIVER THOSE BOOKS WITHOUT KNOWING WHAT HE'S DOING! BUT WHY?

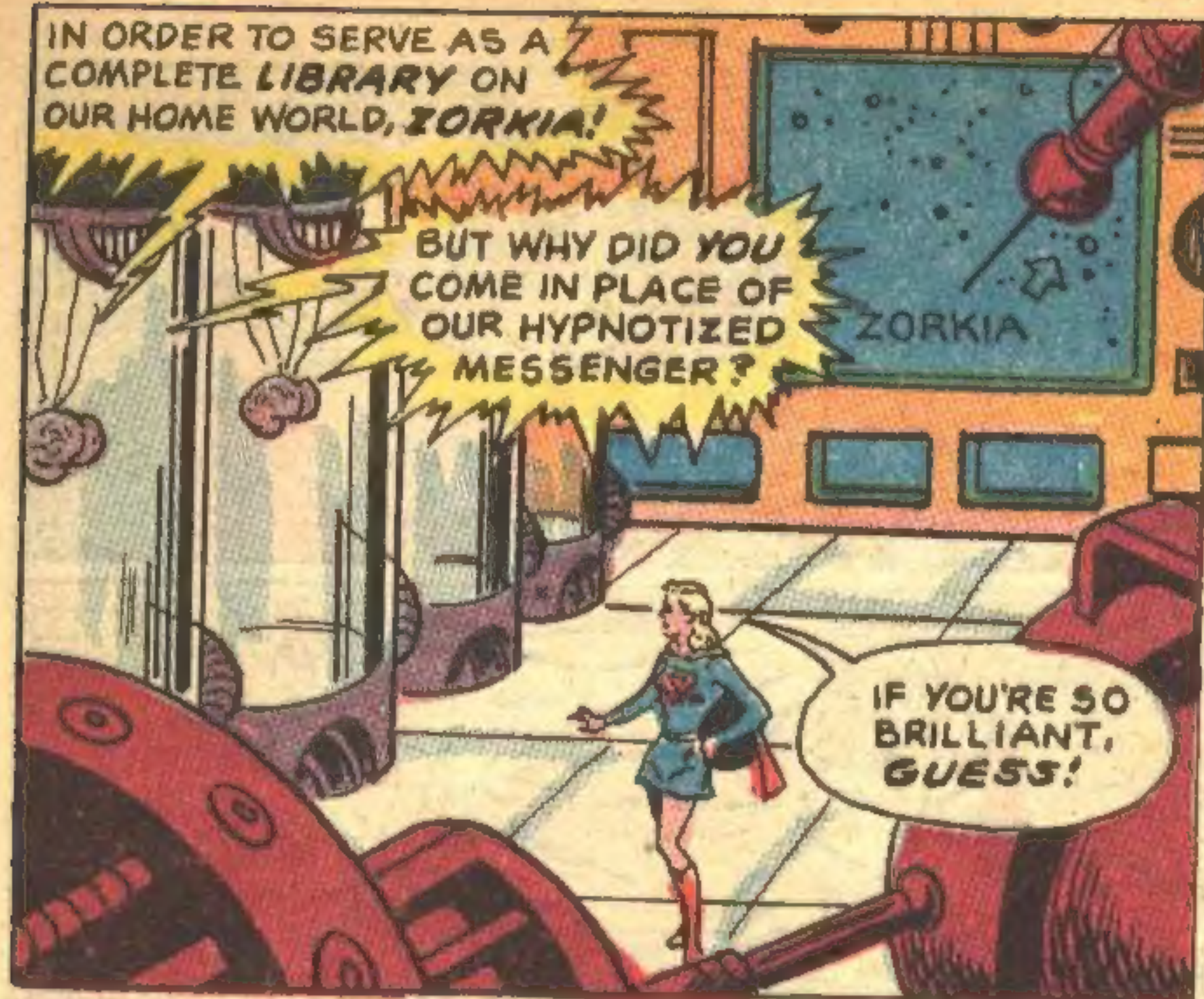
NEXT DAY, AT THE LIBRARY...

HELLO, LINDA! I NEED THESE BOOKS TODAY... UH?....

HOW DO YOU LIKE MY NECKLACE, JOE? LOOK AT THE FLASHING COLORS... KEEP YOUR EYES ON THEM...







IN ORDER TO SERVE AS A COMPLETE **LIBRARY** ON OUR HOME WORLD, **ZORKIA**!

BUT WHY DID YOU COME IN PLACE OF OUR HYPNOTIZED MESSENGER?

IF YOU'RE SO BRILLIANT, GUESS!



YOU WILL TALK... AFTER I USE MY HYPNOTIC BEAM ON YOU...

THEN I'LL TRY MY **SUPER-HYPNOSIS** ON YOU... AND SEE WHO WINS OUT!

SHE IS TOO POWERFUL! HELP ME, ALL OF YOU!



A TERRIFIC MENTAL STRUGGLE ENSUES BETWEEN THE **LOVE GIRL** AND THE HORDE OF ALIEN BRAINS!

GENERATE MORE HYPNOTIC POWER... MORE... MORE! WILL SHE NEVER SUCCUMB AND FALL ASLEEP?

OH, I MIGHT... FROM **SHEER BOREDOM**! CAN'T WE PLAY A MORE STIMULATING GAME?



WE MUST DEFEAT HER! **BIOGRAPHY BRAIN**, YOU HAVE MEMORIZED THE LIVES OF ALL IMPORTANT PEOPLE ON EVERY PLANET! WHAT ABOUT THIS **SUPERGIRL**?

SHE IS A COUSIN OF **SUPERMAN**!

"SHE WAS BORN IN **ARGO CITY**, WHICH MIRACULOUSLY SURVIVED THE DESTRUCTION OF THE PLANET **KRYPTON**. YEARS LATER..."

METEORS HAVE DESTROYED OUR LEAD SHIELDING! IT HAD PROTECTED US EVER SINCE **KRYPTON'S** EXPLOSION TURNED THE GROUND TO DEADLY **KRYPTONITE**! NOW WE'RE DOOMED!



BUT WE'LL SAVE OUR DAUGHTER, **KARA**, BY SENDING HER TO EARTH IN THIS ROCKET!

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

**This WOLF BOY
is JIMMY OLSEN!**

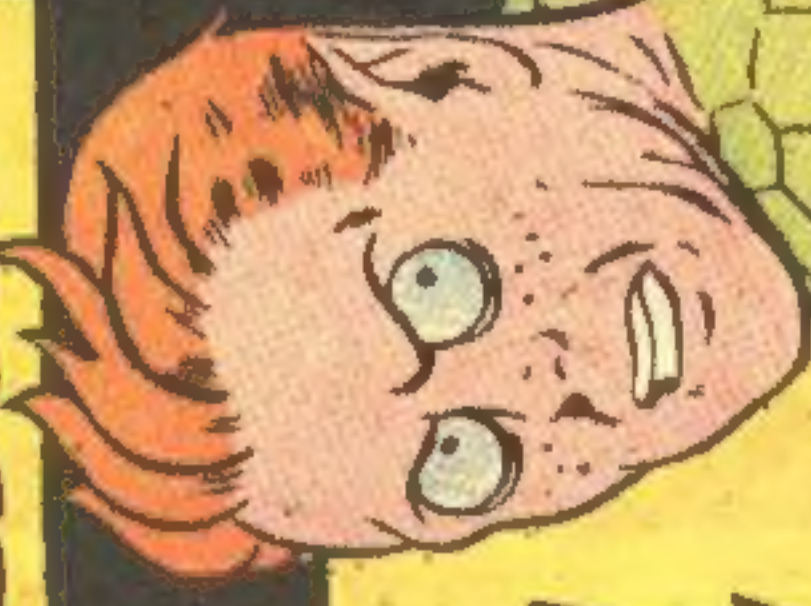


GROWL!

**This WITCH DOCTOR
is also
JIMMY OLSEN!**



**And this
GIANT TURTLE MAN
is JIMMY OLSEN, too!**



ALL THESE AND MORE OF THE
WEIRDEST ADVENTURES
OF **SUPERMAN'S** PAL
ARE FEATURED IN...



ON SALE
JUNE 13th

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

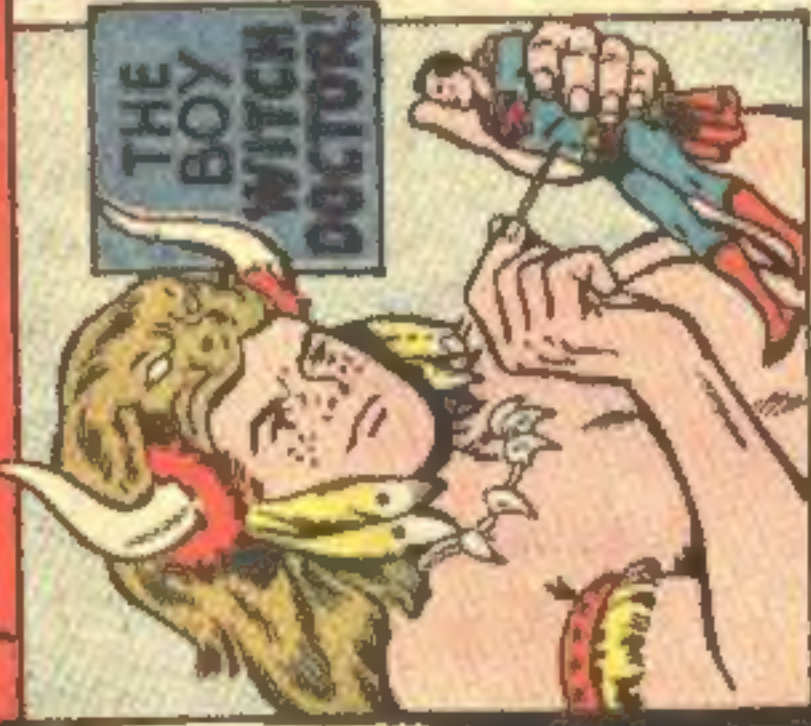
SEPT. 25¢
NO. 104

80 pg. **GIANT**

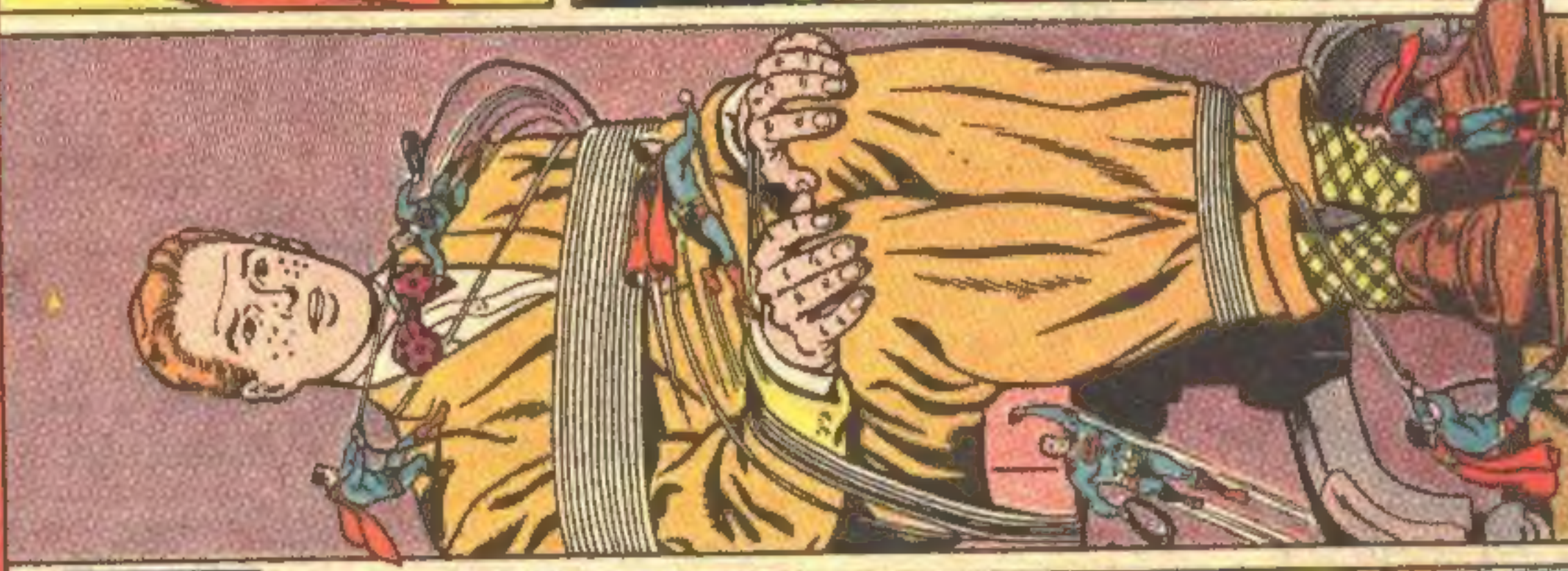
JIMMY OLSEN

12¢

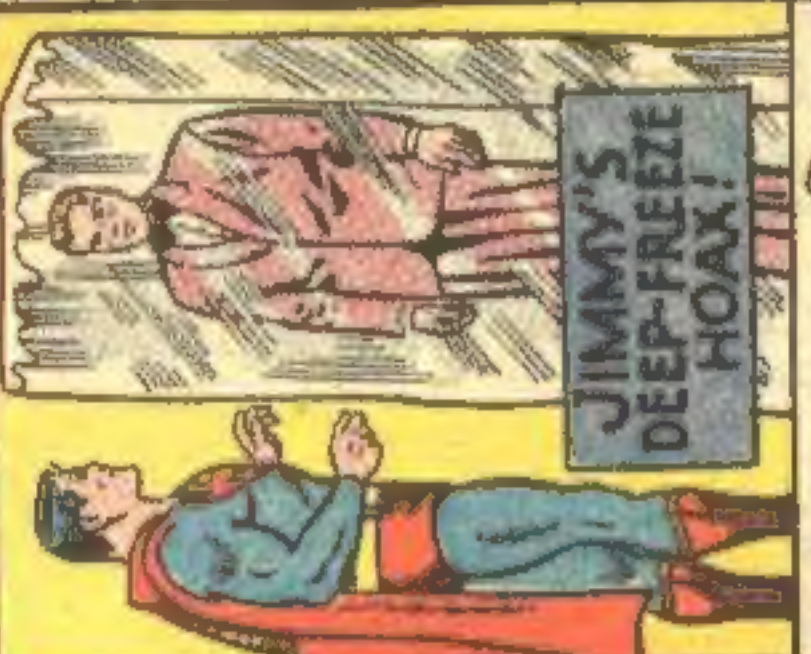
Featuring: **JIMMY'S WEIRDEST ADVENTURES!**
WITH HIS PAL, **SUPERMAN!**



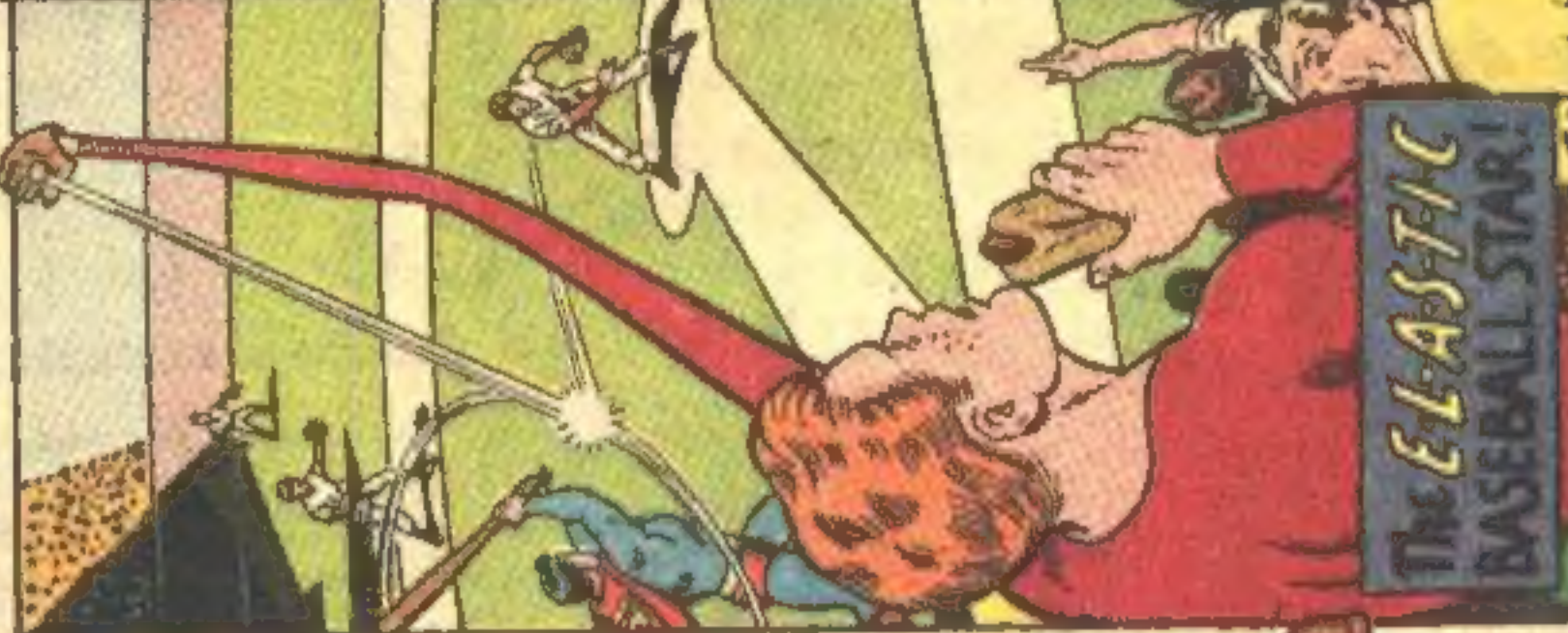
**THE
BOY
WITCH
DOCTOR!**



**CAPTIVE OF THE
Jimmy SUPERMEN!**



**JIMMY'S
DEEP-FREEZE
HOAX!**



**THE ELASTIC
BASEBALL STAR!**

SEE? I KNOW **ALL** ABOUT YOU, **SUPERGIRL**...INCLUDING THE FACT THAT YOU CAN BE KILLED ONLY BY **GREEN KRYPTONITE!**

TOO BAD YOU DON'T HAVE ANY, ISN'T IT?

BUT WE HAVE! WE CARRY SAMPLES OF EVERY MINERAL KNOWN... INCLUDING **GREEN K!** OPEN THE LID, ARM NO. 6!

OH, OH! MY CUE TO CUT OUT...BUT **FAST!**

TOO LATE!

WE CAUGHT HER WITH A **GREEN K RAY!**

CLOSE THE BOX NOW! WE WANT HER **ALIVE!** I HAVE A BRILLIANT IDEA, **LEADER BRAIN!**

WHAT IS IT, **BIG BRAIN?**

AMONG **SUPERGIRL'S** POWERS IS **SUPER-MEMORY!** SHE COULD MEMORIZE **ALL** THE KNOWLEDGE THAT OUR COMBINED **BRAIN-BANKS** HAVE STORED...

PERFECT! WE WILL DO IT!

SUPERGIRL KNOWS THE LEADEN BOX WILL BE OPENED IF SHE REFUSES TO COOPERATE! ATTACH HER TO OUR **MEMORY-BANKS!**

A SCANT HOUR LATER...

SUPERGIRL! HOW HOT IS QUASAR NO. Y-44463, AND WHERE IS IT?

QUASAR NO. Y-44463
REGISTERS 88,976,456.7
DEGREES AND IS 6½
BILLION LIGHT-YEARS
FROM EARTH!

GOOD! SUPERGIRL'S
SUPER-MEMORY HAS
STORED ALL OUR
KNOWLEDGE! NOW
WE WILL TAKE HER
TO OUR NATIVE WORLD!

HERE WE ARE ZORKIA, OUR
HOME PLANET! THAT IS OUR
WORLD LIBRARY! YOU WILL
BE INSTALLED THERE, FOR THE
REST OF YOUR LIFE, AS...

...THE HUMAN LIBRARY...
WHILE WE TAKE A WELL-
DESERVED VACATION! BUT FIRST
WE'LL TRY AND FIND A WAY TO GET OUR
BRAINS BACK IN OUR BODIES, WHICH HAVE BEEN
KEPT IN SUSPENDED ANIMATION!

THEN, AS THE GIRL OF STEEL BEGINS HER NEW JOB...

GIVE ME THE CHEMICAL
FORMULA FOR
NITROGLYCERINE!

...RELATIVITY
EQUATION!

...COSMIC
RAY DATA!

$C_3H_5(NO_3)_3$!

$E=MC^2$!

ON PLANET KUL,
COSMIC RAYS CLOSED
MUTATIONS...

IF I TRY TO ESCAPE,
THEY'LL KILL ME WITH
GREEN K! AM I...
(CHOKES)...TRAPPED
HERE FOR LIFE?

WELL...THIS IS ONE FOR
THE BOOKS! THE MAID
OF MIGHT IS IN A REAL
BIND... AND SHE CAN'T
PAGE ANYONE TO SEND
HELP! YOU MUST NOT
MISS THE CONCLUDING
CHAPTER IN NEXT
MONTH'S ACTION!